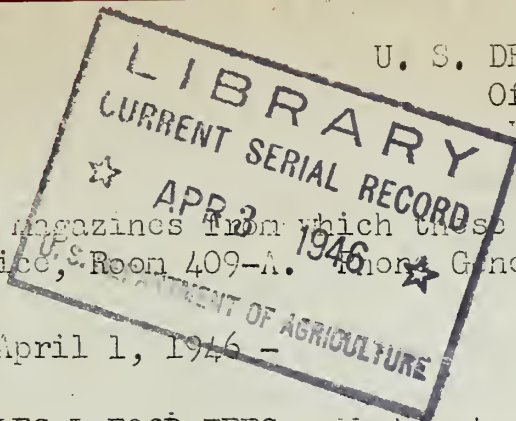


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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 1, 1946 -

FTC ACTS TO HALT ILLEGAL FOOD FEES - Washington - The Federal Trade Commission tonight clamped down on inter-State sales and purchases of food in which "unlawful brokerage" fees are being paid.

The FTC issued fourteen orders directing packers, distributors and brokers to cease violating the brokerage section of the Robinson-Patman Act. Seven orders were issued against sellers of food products who paid unlawful fees to buyers who purchased in their own names and for their own accounts to resell. These companies must stop the practice of paying anything as commission or brokerage on such purchases, the FTC said.

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OLEO TAX REPEAL SOUGHT BY GROCERS - A representative sampling of its 4,500 independent retail grocer members shows that although 97 percent are licensed to sell margarine, none is able to supply more than a fraction of the consumers' current demands for the product, the New York State Food Merchants' Association reported last week. The survey was made as a first step in a campaign by the grocers to urge repeal by Congress of Federal legislation controlling sales of the product.

In view of the continuing scarcity of margarine, resulting from the inability of its manufacturers to obtain sufficient allowances of food fats, retailers who hold licenses to sell the product are being unfairly taxed and the privilege implied is now virtually non-existent, the association contends.

- - -

MAY WHEAT DEALS END ON EXCHANGES - Chicago - No change of consequence was reported last week in the wheat situation, other than the closing out of uncompleted contracts in the May delivery in the Chicago and Kansas City exchanges after similar action taken in Minneapolis, and for the first time since 1919 there is no trading in that contract on American exchanges. The action is the result of the Government conservation program, which prevents trading in cash grain by unauthorized interests.

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COTTON PRICES UP 39 to 53 POINTS - After touching the highest levels since 1924-25 season, prices of cotton last week in the domestic market subsequently eased, but recorded substantial gains for the week. At the close on Saturday active futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange showed advances of 39 to 53 points over those at the close of the previous week, when gains of 40 to 69 points were recorded.

The advance last week was attributed to buying influenced by the growing improvement in the statistical situation, by general inflationary forces, and approval by the Senate of the Russell amendment to the minimum wage bill to increase farm parity prices, despite reports that President Truman will veto the wage bill if it includes an amendment to boost parity.

From the New York Times, April 1 (Cont.) -

GRAIN TRADING IN CHICAGO - Trading in grain futures was slightly smaller last week on the Board of Trade, sales aggregating 62,100,000 bushels, or a daily average of 10,300,000 bushels, compared with averages of 10,800,000 in the preceding week and 20,600,000 a year ago. A decrease in operations in rye accounted for most of the reduced business last week.

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TWO DIE, SCORES SHOT IN ITALIAN FOOD RIOT - Rome - Two were said to be dead, three dying and scores wounded in the most fantastic of Italy's many recent disorders, reported today from Bari.

A gang of black marketeers set upon at Foggia and plundered of their illicit wares by a mob of unemployed after a pitched battle, took revenge by commandeering a train and looting the countryside on the way to Bari, the report said.

About 1,000 unemployed, many of them former soldiers, began the trouble at Foggia, where they looted warehouses of cheese, sausages and other foodstuffs and proceeded to burn official records and furniture.

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BRITAIN IS NOW EXPECTED TO ADOPT WARMER TONE TOWARD ARGENTINE - London - British economic policy toward Argentina will now move quickly in the direction of building up trade and protecting British financial interests and away from cooperation with the United States in any policy of keeping Argentina in the international "dog house," according to well-informed sources in London.

- - -

SERVICE INTERRUPTED FOR PLEA TO TRUMAN THAT FOOD OF WORLD BE POOLED FOR NEEDY - A petition to President Truman and Congress urging the pooling of America's food resources with those of the other nations of the world, the appropriation of funds by Congress to prevent starvation in any part of the world, and an immediate return to rationing in this country, was sent yesterday by the congregation of the Community Church after unanimous adoption at the morning service in Town Hall.

- - -

TO CUT OFF MEMPHIS MILK - Memphis, Tenn. - Producers will leave this city of 300,000 without a source of fresh milk tomorrow by diverting all they produce to industrial plants.

The Association of Milk Producers said that the milk would be sold to condensing plants at a price less than that now being received, in an attempt to force the Office of Price Administration to grant an increase from \$4.53 to \$5.30 per hundredweight.

* * *

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 1 -

PARITY RIDER MAY BE TACKED ONTO OPA BILL, Washington - If the rider to the minimum wage bill which would include all farm labor in the computation of parity fails to pass Congress, or is vetoed by the President, supporters of the measure will attempt to tack it onto the price control extension measure.

Senator Elmer Thomas (Dem., Okla.) said tonight "that is a logical place for it," and added that "we have the votes to do it."

Economic Stabilizer Chester Bowles and Price Administrator Paul Porter have already warned that passage of the measure would have disastrous consequences on the entire stabilization program, and Mr. Porter in a letter to Senator Claude Pepper (Dem. Fla.) last week predicted that the resulting rise in food prices would set off another series of demands for wage increases.

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BITTING TERMS PURCHASE OF CUBAS "RAW DEAL", Clewiston, Fla. - Taxpayers of the United States will pay a hidden "subsidy" of almost 2c per pound on all sugar purchased from Cuba under an agreement just announced by the Cuban Ambassador, it was stated here today by Clarence R. Bitting, president of the United States Sugar Corp.

Bitting made some rapid calculations to show that the Cuban producer will be receiving the equivalent of 5.625c per pound against the present 3.896c allowed the Floridian and other American producers.

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EUROPE'S SUGAR SUPPLY HELD AMPLE - Europe doesn't need contemplated increased United States sugar shipments this year to prevent starvation, in the opinion of Earl Ryan Co., after placing under a strong light available statistics on European supplies.

Using United States Department of Agriculture figures released in February, the Ryan company shows that estimated production for the crop year 1945-46 in Europe will amount to 2,420,000 tons. In addition Europe will get 1,660,000 tons already earmarked from Cuba, the United States, British West Indies, Dominican Republic and French West Indies. Combined that represents a supply of 3,480,000 tons.

Average production in the 14 European countries during 1934-38 amounted to 3,655,000 tons.

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MARKETS - Hog receipts small and readily obtain ceiling prices... Reports are that some large rice interests are about to consolidate... French North African olive oil producers reported asking for exchange for soybean oil on same basis of Spanish and Greek deals... Trade fears another season of raisin shortages due to price competition with wineries... Irregularly develops in canned citrus juices, with Florida packers' offers strong for orange juice but grapefruit juice easier.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.) - - -

Farm Digest 665-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 1 (Cont) -

NEW YORK BARGE CANAL 1945 TRAFFIC REVIEWED - Cargoes carried through New York State's Barge Canal System during 1945 totaled 2,968,682 tons, an increase of about 18½ per cent over 1944, according to figures made available at the New York State Department of Public Works. Principal cargoes moved through the canals were petroleum products, grains, bauxite ore, sulphur, pulpwood and scrap iron. Even higher tonnage totals would have been recorded for the year had the war not limited the number of available boats.

Most of the grain was shipped from Oswego to Albany where it was transferred to elevators for further shipment on ocean-going vessels loading at the Port of Albany, where more than 100 ships took on cargoes totaling 26,000,000 bushels of grain for transport to Europe during the year.

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CANAL REPORTED IN GOOD CONDITION - New York State Department of Public Works canal maintenance crews have been busy all winter conditioning the Barge Canal system for the 1946 season which begins today. Locks and floating equipment have been overhauled, other necessary immediate maintenance work has been accomplished and plans have been made for further operations during the coming months.

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MILL WHEAT STOCKS CONTINUE TO DROP - Maintenance of the subsidy on wheat ground in the East at 31½c and on the Pacific Coast advancing ½c to 35c a bushel was a surprise to the milling trade which had looked for a rise of around 3c in view of the advance in the wheat ceiling last month.

Even with a 3c advance there would have been no material pickup in mill sales as the industry continued to be faced with a shrinking wheat supply which, it was feared, may force a number of mills to curtail their grind.....

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 1 -

FROZEN FOOD RACE, Syracuse, N.Y. - The 16-year-old frozen foods industry is about to pass from adolescence into giant manhood. With a total volume of \$250 million last year, the vital young business is expected to hit a \$2.5 billion stride by 1950, and be stepping along at a \$10 billion pace by 1965.

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HOOVER REPORTS ON POLAND - Former President Herbert Hoover, commenting on his three-day talks with Polish officials and personal inspections of Warsaw, said Poland's "heartbreaking" food shortage "is the worst we've seen so far." Mr. Hoover, who is touring Europe as chairman of President Truman's Famine Emergency Committee, said that Poland has "2.5 million children who are terribly subnormal from undernourishment."

Foreign relief shipments in any substantial amount are "likely to require overall food sacrifices in this country even greater than the experience during the war," according to F. A. Harper, Professor of Marketing, Cornell University. "Only by shifting our diets so as to include less livestock products and more food-like cereals can we release much more food for sending abroad," he added.

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From Watertown, N.Y., Daily Times, March 27 -

OPA CONTINUES TO CRACK DOWN ON "TIE-IN" SALES, Washington, (UP) -- The Office of Price Administration warned today that it will continue cracking down on merchants for "tie-in" sales, despite a supreme court decision upholding one such transaction.

OPA officials planned to intensify enforcement of its regulations forbidding tie-in sales in meat, liquor, essential clothing and used cars.

Price officials were particularly apprehensive that tie-in transactions would increase in meats because of the spring decline in production.

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From The Times-Picayune, March 27 -

FERTILIZER LACK THREATENS SPRING CROPS IN COPIAH, Hazlehurst, Miss., -- Vegetable growers of Copiah county are experiencing much difficulty in getting fertilizers for making the crops for spring shipment.

For the past month fertilizer factories have reported an inability to supply dealers. The shortage of plant food has fallen heavily on Copiah county growers who annually use \$500,000 worth of fertilizers.

Some growers report they will have to change their plans on crop production and eliminate some of their early crops and plant late summer crops of corn or cotton when factories are able to supply more fertilizer.

Chief crops to be affected by the lack of fertilizer are beans, tomatoes and pepper. The cabbage crop is now on the way to maturity, but even this crop will need nitrates to hasten heading of the plants.

Not in a quarter century has such a shortage of fertilizer threatened curtailment of vegetable crops.

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From Watertown, N. Y., Daily Times, March 27 -

RECORD MILK PRICE FOR MARCH FORECAST, New York (AP) -- Dr. C. J. Blanford, New York milk market administrator, estimated today that dairymen would be paid a uniform price of \$3.41 per hundredweight for March milk supplied for the Metropolitan area.

The price-to-be supplemented by a subsidy payment of at least 70 cents to raise it to a minimum of \$4.11 -- would be the highest for any March under the federal-state milk marketing orders. Blanford added in a statement that according to Cornell university reports, the total return of \$4.11 would be 55 cents higher than the March, 1920, record of \$3.56.

The estimated \$3.41 uniform price, Blanford said, includes a butterfat differential of 4.8 cents for each point of fat in excess of the 3.5 per cent requirement.

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From The Davenport Democrat and Leader, March 27 -

FARM LABOR SITUATION STILL SERIOUS; DRAFT BOARDS ARE FILLING QUOTAS WITH FARMERS, Ames, Ia. -- Iowa farmers are finding it more and more difficult to get help, John R. Fitzsimmons said Wednesday. Fitzsimmons is in charge of the state farm labor office at Iowa State college.

In spite of the return of between 18,000 and 25,000 men from service each month farmers are having difficulty getting the help they need to plant and take care of this year's crops, he reports.

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From The Times-Picayune, March 27 -

EASTLAND BACK 30-CENT COTTON, Washington - Thirty cents a pound is not a cent too much for cotton when the present costs are considered. A formal statement to this effect was issued today by Senator James O. Eastland of Mississippi, who says he is going to make it his business to see that the price control extension contains language that will make it certain that the farmer cannot be denied 30 cents a pound for the cotton he produces in 1946.

Unless OPA puts an early stop to its anti-producer tendencies, Senator Eastland believes the agency will be abolished. "Other groups," Senator Eastland asserted, "practically have been allowed to write their own ticket. All we are demanding is a price that will compensate Southern producers for increased costs which government policies have imposed upon them."

Senator Eastland said he is appalled by the attempt of OPA to roll back the price of cotton and to depress cottonseed prices. Farm costs have increased so tremendously, he said, that cotton cannot be grown profitably at present prices. Cottonseed, he declared, is selling for less than it did in 1941, in spite of the fact that costs have multiplied.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, March 28 -

WHAT HAS BECOME OF CHICAGO'S BEEF, Editorial, The quantity of beef now available per person in Chicago is the smallest since records have been kept. The fault lies with the government which has interfered at every step in the producing and marketing process.

The meddling starts on the farm. The government's decrees have made it unprofitable or impossible for feeders to operate. Many of those who in the past operated feed lots, where 700 pound steers were turned into 1,200 pound steers, were forced out of business during the war. The government told these people that there was no place for them in the war time food setup. The hardy ones who couldn't be discouraged have subsequently found it difficult to operate because corn growers wouldn't sell their grain at the ceiling prices. Some feeders have been paying black market prices for corn and in turn have sold their cattle to black market operators. . . . The government has completely demoralized the meat industry and now sees to it that there is practically no beef to be had. People in the Chicago area, especially, are discriminated against. The country killers' market is not interfered with. The eastern market is provided for, at a price. It is Chicago, famed thruout the world as the greatest meat packing center, that suffers from a beef shortage.

So small a portion of the beef processing is now done in the big packing plants here that it scarcely pays them to stay open. Thousands of employees have been laid off and other thousands are working part time. Employment in the packing plants has declined to the point where the union has called for an investigation by the department of agriculture. If the people of this community stand for this treatment from the OPA they will stand for anything.

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From The Atlanta Constitution, March 25 -

HERBERT HOOVER'S NOBLE MISSION, Editorial, Having taken many a hard swing at Herbert Hoover, the politician and President, it is with genuine pleasure we applaude and commend him in the role of humanitarian.

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Farm Digest 655-46-6

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 2 -

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WORLD FOOD PARLEY CALLED; TRUMAN ORDERS SPECIAL AID-Washington-A conference of world and national food organizations and officials will start here May 20 to strengthen emergency famine relief and help individual government map long-range food and farming programs as insurance against starvation conditions, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations announced today. The conference will last a week.

In a closely related move, President Truman called upon Secretary of Agriculture Anderson to take the lead in forming an interagency committee to work with the FAO on a world food program.

The committee, as outlined by the President, will consist of representatives of the Departments of Agriculture, State, Treasury, Commerce, Interior and Labor, the Federal Security Agency and the Bureau of the Budget. Secretary Anderson or a nominee of his selection will be chairman of the committee.

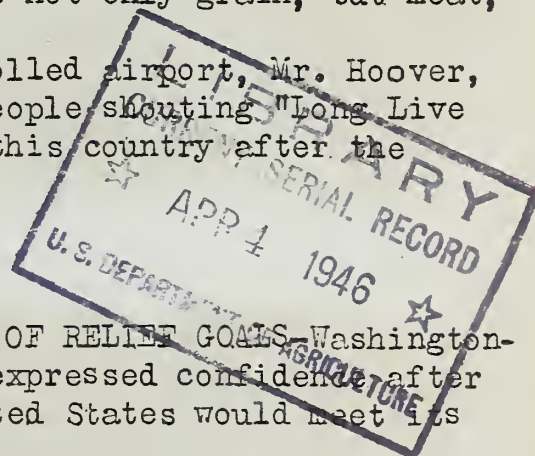
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SWEDES TELL HOOVER OF LIMIT TO THEIR AID-Stockholm-"Rich Sweden" was busy explaining to former President Herbert Hoover on his arrival here today why this country cannot help starving Europe beyond what she already is doing. Although outwardly prosperous, Sweden, according to an official spokesman, faced empty larders and granaries as a result of having contributing 250,000 tons of cereals to needy neighbors and saw no constructive way to help further.

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FINLAND NEEDS MEAT, BUTTER AND CLOTHING-Helsinki-During his twenty-four hour visit to Finland, former President Herbert Hoover had talks with Finnish supply experts who told him that what Finland needed was not only grain, but meat, vegetables, butter, sugar and clothing.

After his tumultuous welcome at the Russian-controlled airport, Mr. Hoover, wherever he went in Helsinki was greeted by crowds of people shouting "Long Live Hoover," remembering what his relief committee did for this country after the first World War.



LA GUARDIA, AFTER SEEING ANDERSON VOICES OPTIMISM OF RELIEF GOALS-Washington-Fiorello H. La Guardia, Director General of the UNRRA, expressed confidence after a conference with Secretary Anderson today that the United States would meet its full foreign food relief commitments this year.

"Fears heard along this line were dispelled during a discussion about the situation with the Secretary," the former New York Mayor said at a news conference.

Mr. Anderson declared that shipments of wheat and meats to the needy areas were increasing and showed "every sign of coming up to the goal."

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SAYS ARGENTINA HAS LITTLE-Buenos Aires-Argentina has no more than 500,000 tons of wheat for export, the newspaper Prensa said today to deflate a widespread belief that this country had a large exportable wheat surplus.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N. Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 2 -

RUSSIA REJECTS BID TO CEREAL PARLEY-London-The Soviet Union has rejected an invitation to join eighteen nations in the emergency conference on European cereal supplies opening here Wednesday, conference officials said tonight (Czechoslovakia, Finland, Hungary and Rumania did not reply, while the Ukraine, White Russia and Yugoslavia rejected invitations, the United Press said.)

There was no explanation of the Soviet refusal. A message requesting reconsideration has been sent to Moscow, a spokesman said. Eighteen countries, including the United States and Britain, will be represented. In addition, all four occupation zones of Germany, including the Russian.

RYE LEADS UPTURN IN GRAIN MARKETS-Chicago-Grains made an easy start and a strong finish today on the Board of Trade. Closing trades on May rye showed an advance of $2\frac{1}{4}$ cents a bushel. The active deliveries of oats were up $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ cent and the distant months in barley were bid up $\frac{1}{2}$ cent without attracting offers. Other grain futures finished unchanged at ceiling prices.

PRICES FOR COTTON REACH 22-YEAR HIGH-The cotton market on the New York Cotton Exchange opened 2 to 7 points lower yesterday and closed 24 to 28 points higher, the top for twenty-two years.

The stimulus was the report that the cotton farm bloc intends to tack the parity amendment on the Price Control Bill if Congress fails to act on the Minimum Wage Bill, which already has the Pace parity formula attached to it.

END MEAT CONTROL, PACKER GROUP ASKS-Washington-A group of small packers urged today the immediate lifting of all OPA meat controls so that "legitimate" operators in the industry would have a free hand to drive out a black market "running wild" and put more and better meat on the consumers' tables.

Wilbur La Roe Jr., attorney for the National Independent Meat Packers Association told the Senate Agriculture Committee that price control on meat had "broken down." Honest processors, large and small, got only a small fraction of the cattle, sheep and hogs, he said.

WHITE FLOUR GOES ABROAD-Washington-The Government amended today its dark flour order to permit millers to make white flour for export to tropical areas. The change was necessary, the Agriculture Department said, to meet danger of spoilage. Some officials declared also that domestic millers had been having difficulty competing with Canadian millers in tropical areas.

From The New York Herald Tribune, April 2 -

TRUMAN WARNS INFLATION PERILS GOAL OF FUTURE-Washington-President Truman said today the United States is on the threshold of a new era of high living standards but warned it never will be crossed unless inflationary forces are checked. The President described the nation's goal as "full production, full employment, and mass market economy with the high standard of living and security that it will bring to all of our people."

From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 2 -

A THIRSTY SUMMER is assured by scarce sugar and vanishing grain. Taking a body-blow restriction on grain use, breweries will probably make only about 17 million barrels of beer in the peak three months starting June 1. That's almost a third less than the 24 million barrels produced in the same 1945 period.

Soft drink makers, who up to this month only got 50% as much sugar as they used in 1941, receive only 60% of that figure even now.

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SUGAR OUTLOOK grows darker, with bigger shipments to Europe likely. Industrial sugar users who, only a few weeks ago, were confident of an additional increase in rations in the third quarter, now fear it will be postponed. Sugar men, who criticize government secrecy on export plans, think almost half of Cuba's big 4.8 to 5 million ton 1946 crop may go to countries other than the United States. Normally about two thirds of Cuban sugar is consumed in this country.

It is known that sugar supplies in Europe are woefully meager. The Continent's beet sugar output this season is estimated at only 5.7 million tons. It averaged nearly 10 million in pre-war years.

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EXPORTING EGGS may develop into a thriving business for U. S. farmers. While this country sent millions of pounds of dried eggs abroad during the war, a recent shipment of fresh eggs to Switzerland demonstrated that there may be a peacetime foreign market for eggs with shells on them. These eggs moved to Switzerland with only the refrigeration that February provides, arriving there in little more than two weeks, and reportedly in excellent condition.

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SUGAR BEET FIELDS will be invaded by mechanical harvesters in force this year. There were 160 of the machines at work in California (one of the largest beet growers) in 1945, handling about half the beets on the 102,000 acres planted. This year, 360 harvesters will take care of an estimated half of two-thirds of the crop now growing on 148,000 acres.

Three man-hours with one of these machines does the work of 45 man-hours with hand labor.

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MEAT UNION THREATENS STRIKE AGAINST U.S., Chicago - Officials of the United Packinghouse Workers of America (C.I.O.) threatened a walkout from the Government-operated "big five" packing houses if "widespread layoffs in packing plants continue."

In a broadside at what the union alleged were attempts by the packers to "stimulate and exaggerate reports of a black market shortage of cattle in order to defeat an extension of the price control act.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Wall Street Journal)

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Farm Digest 675-46-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 2 (Cont) -

U.S. VISIBLE WHEAT SUPPLY, Chicago - The visible supply of wheat in the United States in the week ended March 30, according to figures compiled by the Chicago Board of Trade, was (in bushels, 000 omitted) 27,928 against 83,414 a year ago.

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ITALY GETS \$25 MILLION EXPORT-IMPORT BANK CREDIT, Washington - The Italian Government and a number of Italian banks have signed a loan agreement with the Export-Import Bank for a \$25 million credit. The credit will be utilized to finance the purchase of raw cotton in this country.....

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 2 -.

SEEK TO ELIMINATE FARM PARITY RIDER, Washington - Administration forces were today mapping legislative strategy designed to avoid inclusion of the Pace farm parity bill in the pending minimum wage law.

Several new amendments to the original bill were understood to be in preparation. They are said to be so drafted that their passage would eliminate the amendment introduced by Senator Richard Russell (Dem. Ga.) from the bill. The Russell amendment embodies the Pace provisions for including all farm labor costs in the fixing of parity prices for farm commodities.

The situation on the minimum wage law now is: (1) The only amendment thus far voted on and passed is the Russell amendment. (2) The Senate is supposed to take up tomorrow an amendment offered by Senator Claude Pepper (Dem., Fla.), sponsor of the original bill. The amendment, which did not materially change any part of the measure, was introduced last week in an effort to force a quick vote....(3) A switch in tactics, however, may cause introduction of several amendments which would virtually rewrite the original bill without changing the essential provision. These would not contain the Russell amendment and if any should be passed, the Russell amendment would be dead.

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CUTTERS PRESS FOR QUICKER DELIVERY OF WOOL GOODS - There is tremendous pressure being exerted from all sides for early shipments of the new season's merchandise, market observers stated yesterday.

With minimum carryover of spring fabrics expected at the end of the present season, millmen point out that garment production from the outset of the new season will depend almost entirely upon the then current fabric production.

Pressure on the mills for early delivery is said to stem from the desire on the part of the garment manufacturers and retailer to get into a position for early launching of the season.

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From The New York Times, March 31 -

REPORT FROM THE NATION, The Upper South, Rush of Mill Buying by Northerners Causes Worry, Richmond, -- Northern capitalists are buying Southern textile mills in large numbers and the phenomenon is troubling Southern editors and others, because it means an increase in the already large percentage of industries owned outside the region. More than 1,000,000 Southern spindles have passed into Northern hands in recent weeks.

Stanford Martin, editor of the Winston-Salem (N.C.) Journal, comments:

"In addition to the absentee-owner angle, the probable shakeups in management, etc., the changes will hit Southern warehousemen, spot-cotton dealers, distributors of mill supplies, machinery repair shops, and even the bankers, it is feared, since the moves mean the centering of the various important business relations of the mills in Northern cities.

"Another fear is that the ownership changes will bring less consumption of cotton in the mills and greater use of synthetic fibers."

Midwest States

Dairy Farmers Doubtful on Future Milk Supplies -- Omaha, Midwest dairy farmers and processors take the dim view concerning future supplies of milk and milk products.

It isn't entirely a matter of price with them, although many are sharply critical of Government price controls and subsidy arrangements. They are, in addition, short of labor, while feed is hard to find and badly needed equipment is still lacking.

One result is that dairy herds are being liquidated in increasing numbers. Dale M. Stewart of Madison, Neb., brought home a prediction from a recent directors' meeting of the American Dairy Association that the country faced the most abrupt decline in dairy herd numbers that had ever been recorded. This would necessarily mean less milk, butter, cheese and ice cream on city tables.

The situation is tied in closely with the grain shortage. Many cows and heifers which could have produced milk have been sent to slaughter for lack of feed, Mr. Stewart reports. He adds that thousands of farmers are dropping dairying for lack of feed and help.

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From The Kansas City Times, March 26 -

WHEAT NOT ONLY CROP IN KANSAS, Pratt, Kas., -- Southwestern Kansas has often been referred to as the "bread basket of the world," but recently wheat has been pushed aside somewhat by other enterprises. Western Kansas is now vying with the Imperial valley in raising melons and vegetables and thousands of acres of irrigated land has been added to the large area now used in that capacity.

Poultry and dairy herds are being stressed throughout this vast wheat area and farmers are deriving a greater income from these lines, in some instance, than they are from their wheat fields.

New irrigation wells are being placed in operation all over the western section of the state and from these wells thousands of acres of alfalfa, melons, onions, sugar beets and other crops are watered, being raised in abundance.

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From The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn., March 28 -

FLAME FARMING TALKS STIRRING UP INTEREST -- The missionary work of preaching the gospel of farm efficiency, chiefly through the use of the flame cultivator for cotton, which has been carried out by Dr. J. E. Adams, superintendent of the Delta Branch Experiment Station at Stoneville, Miss., is returning a good harvest of converts.

Before civic clubs, farm groups, wherever there is a farm-minded audience, Dr. Adams is appearing with his portable motion picture projector and his sound film which shows the workings of the cultivator.

Impressive as is the demonstration of the cultivator, the greatest attention is paid to that part of the film which pictures graphically the savings to be effected through the use of the cultivator.

The effectiveness of his work is reflected in the number of inquiries received as to where and when the cultivators can be bought.

Planters making the initial inquiry and learning that production has been limited by various factors, ranging from labor troubles to inability to obtain steel, are asking for specifications in the hope that they will be able to build a machine for themselves.

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From The Kansas City Star, March 26 -

NEW PROCESS FOR RICE, New York, (AP) -- There's a new type of rice, heralded as a "notable" food contribution to the American housewife's future. It developed from a horseback ride in California in 1938.

The new rice is the product of a process devised by a young Persian-American, Milton Yonan-Malek. It seals into each grain the healthful bran layer that is lost in the ageold "polishing" method.

As a result, Malek says, the rice:

Retains 85 per cent of the grain's natural vitamins.

Cooks into fluffy, nonlumpy dish, holding natural flavor. Each grain cooks separately. Is virtually impregnable to insects. For the civilian table, though, all this is yet to come. Large-scale production will be impossible for months, perhaps not until next year, because UNRRA has bought up most of the 1946 rice crop for overseas relief shipments.

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From New York Herald Tribune, April 1 -

FARMERS URGED BY LA GUARDIA TO SELL WHEAT -- Former Mayor F. H. La Guardia, in his first radio broadcast since taking the helm of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration as its director general, appealed yesterday to the nation's farmers to sell their wheat for use of the hungry world which "is depending on us for food."

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U.N.R.R.A. URGED TO USE ETHIOPIAN FOOD SURPLUS, African Race Groups Back Proposal at Rally Here -- A resolution calling to the attention of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration that there is a surplus of food in Ethiopia that might be utilized by the relief agency to feed starving areas, was unanimously adopted last night at a meeting of African race organizations sponsored by the Ethiopian World Federation.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 3 -

ABSENTEES CRIPPLE LONDON FOOD TALK-London-One of the most important conferences yet held to try to alleviate the desperate food shortage in Europe opens in London but it is doomed in advance to partial failure. The iron curtain that divides Europe politically will, with the exception of Poland, also divide Europe in this effort to save millions from grave hunger, if not starvation.

Britain and other European nations tried hard to take politics out of food. The Soviet Union, White Russia, the Ukraine, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Finland all either refused to join tomorrow's conference or did not reply to invitations. The organizers, in fact, were surprised and happy when Warsaw ordered its Minister of Supply to attend the conference.

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LA GUARDIA BEGINS TALK WITH ARGENTINA-Washington-Fiorella H. La Guardia, director general of UNRRA, announced tonight that he is opening negotiations with the Argentine Government to enlist its aid in relieving the world food situation.

He disclosed that he had learned officially that Argentina would "be pleased" to receive his representative. He said the Francis B. Sayre, diplomatic adviser to the UNRRA, was in Montevideo and would go to Buenos Aires.

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LIQUOR MEN SEE BID TO REVIVE PROHIBITION-Atlantic City-Certain groups in the nation are attempting to bring back prohibition by using the threat of world famine, it was charged here today by Gen. Frank R. Schwengel of New York, president of the Distilled Spirits Institute, who said the drys' arguments were unfair and contrary to facts.

"An organized cry has been set up against the use of grain for beverage purposes 'while starving Europe pleads for bread,' he declared, 'though the distilling industry, under its present grain allowance, uses only a negligible amount of grain suitable for bread.'"

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FRENCH TO RECEIVE ARMY SURPLUS FOOD-Paris-Ambassador Jefferson Caffery and President Felix Gouin will tomorrow preside at the ceremony of the signing of an agreement for a new cooperative relief drive that will bring the French civilians packages of United States Army surplus food.

The distribution will be sponsored by the Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe, a non-governmental voluntary American relief agency. It will enable public spirited Americans, by non-commercial means, to help relatives, friends and colleagues in countries of Europe that are short of food. It is understood that the agency has recently acquired 3,000,000 ten-in-one packages of combat rations declared surplus by the United States Army. It has been arranged that private citizens or groups in the United States may send these packages through the agency to France and to other points in Europe. Tomorrow's ceremony will mark the opening of shipments that are soon to start to France.

(Turn to page 2 for other items
in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, April 3, 1946 -

COTTON FLUCTUATES OVER WIDE RANGE-Cotton futures on the New York Cotton Exchange moved over a fairly wide range yesterday and closed steady at net gains of 6 to 14 points. Starting 7 to 11 points up, they moved into new twenty-two year highs and to net gains of 12 to 17 points; but broke to losses of 5 to 6 points on active months on liquidation and hedging. Later price fixing steadied the market.

Spain is reported to have purchased 23,000 bales of American cotton from four leading spot firms, April-May shipment.

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WHEAT PRICES SAG ON HEAVY SELLING-Chicago-Heavy selling of September wheat by commission houses, which brokers regarded as liquidation or profit taking by longs, caused a decline of $3/8$ cent a bushel from the ceiling in that delivery today on the Board of Trade, with the finish at a loss of $1/4$ cent net. July and December finished unchanged and failed to drop from the previous finish. It was the first time that any wheat future has been under the permissible maximum since March 15.

May rye and oats dipped in sympathy with wheat, with rye off $1 7/8$ cents and oats losing $7/8$ to 1 cent, except on May, which was unchanged at the ceiling. The distant deliveries of barley were bid up $1/2$ cent without attracting offers. Corn, the deferred deliveries of rye and May and July barley closed unchanged at ceiling prices.

Reports that the Government might inaugurate a certificate plan in the immediate future to have farmers sell their cash wheat had considerable influence on sentiment, as it is figured that if the plan is a success it will loosen up the cash situation.

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RETAIL MILK PRICES RISING IN 'FEW DAYS'-Washington-The House Small Business Committee predicted today that retail milk prices would go up one cent a quart as a result of general milk revisions "looked for within the next few days."

In a weekly report, the committee said a milk shortage in the fall was expected to affect not only fluid milk but also cheese, butter, evaporated milk and ice cream supplies.

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From The New York Herald Tribune, April 3 -

U. S. PLEDGING TOP PRICES FOR FARM WHEAT-Washington-The Department of Agriculture played its ace card today to get wheat off farms to meet the nation's lagging deliveries to world starvation areas by offering to buy wheat from farmers between now and July 1 and pay them the market price at whatever date they select until March 31, 1947.

But there is a possibility that Congress may trump this ace if it passes the Pace parity revision rider currently attached to the Senate minimum wage bill. This would add another estimated 50 cents to the cost of each bushel of grain, embarrassing the Commodity Credit Corporation, which would not have the funds to meet this payment.

As of Jan. 1, the department estimated there were 369,000,000 bushels of wheat on the farm. Due to regular point-a-month advances in the existing parity formula, the general feed shortage and for income tax reasons, farmers have been holding their wheat, slowing procurement for overseas relief shipment.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 3 -

COMPROMISE NEAR TO DROP FARM PARITY RIDER, Washington - After two days of conferences, a compromise on minimum wage legislation which would eliminate the farm parity amendment was virtually reached tonight by a group of Senate leaders.

The Russell amendment, which embodies the Pace bill, provides for inclusion of all farm labor costs.

The new proposal provides for an increase in the minimum wage from 40c to 60c with no further increases contemplated. It would also sharply reduce the coverage in the original bill by eliminating first processors.

The new coalition, which includes Administration sponsors of the original bill and sponsors of a lower minimum wage level, will first seek to defeat the Pepper amendment, which calls for an increase of 65c immediately and subsequent increases at two-year intervals at 70c and 75c. If they defeat this amendment, the Russell amendment would be dead.

They would then introduce the new amendments providing for the flat 60c minimum and restricting the coverage.

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LARGER ACREAGE PLANTED IN TEXAS, Houston - Applications for permits to plant cotton in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas increased last week. On March 28, the total reached 318,000 acres for the four counties of Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy and Starr. This compares with a total of 274,643 last season and 289,000 in 1944.

An increase in cotton plantings was reported from the Matamoros-Reynosa areas on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande. A total of 325,000 acres have been planted, 50,000 more than last year.

The Mexican crop has reached an excellent stand. With continued favorable growing conditions, the crop may be the largest on record, topping the high of 120,000 bales established last year.

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SUGAR DEMAND - With the fear of a refinery shutdown late this week, sugar buyers are expected to increase their calls for refined. Whether or not the strike at refineries develops arrivals from Cuba in April will be curtailed because ship sailing were canceled by the Government in anticipation of the strike.

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MARKETS - Hogs actively sought and prices hold at ceilings...Position of dressed fryers improving...Green cabbage higher under short supplies...Apples, strawberries clearing readily....More selling pressure on Midwestern eggs....Continued cheese tightness....Still no news of moves to equalize butterfat prices....Large chain bakers acquire moderate quantities of sales owing to uncertain wheat supply outlook.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce)

Farm Digest 685-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, March 3 (Cont) -

SEPTEMBER WHEAT DIPS BELOW CEILING - Chicago September wheat receded from the ceiling of \$1.83½ for the first time in more than two weeks on selling based on the possibility that the Government certificate plan to stimulate farm marketing may improve the supply position, with reports stressing the very favorable crop outlook a contributing factor.

Selling of the September was led by a large commission house with elevator connections, and it was estimated that more than 1,000,000 bushels were absorbed at the ceiling before a let-up in the demand brought about the set-back.

However, weather and crop news appeared to emerging as a market influence after being entirely subordinated to Washington developments for a very extended period, and traders were paying more attention to favorable reports, especially from the Southwest, where one source predicted an unprecedented winter wheat outturn if present promise is maintained.

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WHEAT FLOUR OUTPUT UP 13%, NEW HIGH, Washington - A total of 25,600,000 sacks of wheat flour, exceeding by 3 per cent the previous record, was produced during January, the Department of Commerce announced today.

The record production represents an increase of 13 per cent over the 22,700,000 for the preceding month and 16 per cent over the 22,000,000 for January, 1945. Production for the month of January during the crop years 1934-35 through 1938-39, averaged only 16,400,000 sacks.

In lifting wheat flour production to its highest level, the mills ground 59,600,000 bushels of wheat.

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CO-OPS BUY NEW \$1,000,000 OIL LAND, Minneapolis - Purchase of Midland Cooperative Wholesale, Minneapolis, of 440 acres of oil producing property in the rich Seminole field of Oklahoma is announced by A. J. Smaby, general manager.

Included in the transaction are 21 oil wells which are producing approximately 1,600 barrels of crude daily. This is enough Smaby said, to supply a large portion of the crude requirements of the Midland Co-op oil refinery at Cushing, Okla. The purchase price was not divulged, but it is understood to have been more than \$1,000,000.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, March 3 -

INTER-AGENCY MEETING SEEKS TINPLATE TO CAN PERISHABLE RELIEF FOOD, Washington - How to distribute the critically short supply of tinplate to save the world's 1946 perishable food crop has become a major inter-agency problem.

The Civilian Production Administration's priorities policy committee is meeting today to consider complaints from the State Department, the Commerce Department, the food processing industry and some Latin American countries over cutbacks in the meager tinplate allocations.

The steel strike cost about seven weeks of tinplate production.

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From The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, March 31 -

APPLICATIONS FOR CROP LOANS POURING INTO MEMPHIS OFFICE DESPITE MIDSOUTH PROSPERITY -- Although MidSouth farmers generally are enjoying a high degree of prosperity because of increased production and good prices, the Emergency Crop and Feed Loan Division of the Farm Credit Administration is being called upon by thousands of low income farmers for financial aid in making their 1946 crops.

"The Government job of financing Spring planting for farmers who are unable to obtain loans elsewhere is now in full swing," W. G. Hutton, regional manager, said yesterday as he thumbed through a stack of applications for crop and seed loans now pouring into his office.

"Last year," Mr. Hutton said, "the Memphis office, which serves Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana, made 18,500 loans, totaling about \$3,500,000. Already this year we have made 19,000 loans, and the number of loan applications is increasing every day."

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From The Milwaukee Journal, March 31 -

CHEESE TROUBLES CHARGED TO OPA, Sheboygan Falls, Wis. - (AP) - The Cheese Reporter, a trade publication, declared Saturday that "complete exhaustion of the nation's supply of cheese bandages -- a condition which will throw the cheddar cheese industry into a completely chaotic condition -- will occur within a few weeks' time unless immediate price relief is granted bandage manufacturers."

The publication, official organ of nine cheesemakers' associations in Wisconsin, Ohio and Missouri, charged that OPA was responsible for the condition. OPA, it pointed out, granted cotton mills an approximate 7½% increase last fall and currently is reported to be considering another increase of 12 to 15%.

The article stated that "the cheese bandage manufacturers, however, have indicated to the Reporter that it is impossible for them to absorb both increases and that they might have to stop manufacturing bandages until the increase is passed on to the user of the bandages."

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From The Antigo Daily Journal, Antigo, Wisconsin, March 26 -

FARM JOBS GO BEGGING, Editorial, Marathon county's experience of having had not a single application for farm work filed by a returning serviceman is typical of an ominous trend which is peculiar to no one community. Despite the fact that farm income is higher than it has ever been, the number of farmers is dwindling steadily until today it is questionable whether 15 per cent of the country's population may be found on farms.

The reason is not hard to find. Few young men are apt to turn down the opportunity to work five or six short days a week for good wages in cities when the alternative is the farm with its long hours and comparatively low pay. Only an intense dislike for city life or an unusual attachment to country living would induce an ambitious young fellow to take a job on a farm in preference to one in the city under present conditions.

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From The Iowa Farm Register, March 31 -

PRICES TO SOAR IF BILL PASSES. -- Prices of a number of Iowa farm products would zoom if the farm parity amendment should be enacted into law.

Estimates of the department of agriculture indicate corn prices would be boosted 35 to 40 cents a bushel, hogs three to four dollars a hundred and butterfat 13 to 16 cents a pound.

These increases would result because the amendment provides that farm labor costs are to be included in figuring parity.

Wheat would be increased 50 cents a bushel in price, cotton seven cents a pound, eggs 12 to 15 cents a dozen and orange, grapefruit and tobacco prices would be increased with the higher ceilings which would be in effect.

The exact effects are not apparent in all cases. For example, farmers now are receiving less than parity for eggs, whereas the butterfat prices now being received are above parity.

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From The Atlanta Constitution, March 26 -

A SIGNIFICANT FREIGHT RATE REDUCTION, Editorial, Terming present tariffs "unreasonable and unduly prejudicial," the Interstate Commerce Commission has ordered substantial reductions in freight rates on meat and other packing house products shipped from the South to the Northeast.

The new rates, which must be placed into effect on or before June 14, will eliminate much of the handicap under which Southern packing houses have operated. Thus the ICC ruling will be welcomed by all who are anxious to see Southern industry placed more nearly in a position to compete on equal footing with those in other parts of the nation.

It is noteworthy, however, that while the new rates will mean a definite improvement, the South will still be discriminated against in some degree.

Whereas the new rate on fresh meat from Atlanta to New York will be 90 cents per hundredweight instead of the current 99, for instance, the rate from Chicago to New York, an even further distance, has been and will continue only 83 cents.

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From Independent Producers' Guide, March, 1946 -

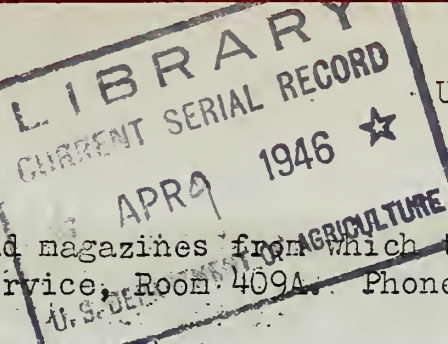
NEED HIGHER MILK PRICES, Editorial, The dairy farmer believes that either the subsidies should be increased to offset this increased cost or that the Class I price be raised.

Of the two, the average dairyman would prefer elimination of subsidies and an increase in the milk price which would not only offset the loss of subsidies but also compensate him for the increased costs of labor, feed and other things.

The OPA, in its infinite wisdom, has increased the prices of men's clothing, it has boosted the price of shirts, it is going to raise the price of cigarettes and it has even raised the price of milk at retail in a few cities.

But for some reason or other the Department has been deaf to the pleas of the dairy farmers.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 4094. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 4, 1946

PRODUCTION OF CIVILIAN GOODS AT NEW HIGH, TRUMAN SAYS-Washington-President Truman answered critics of his reconversion and stabilization policies today with the statement that production of goods and services for civilian markets, at better than \$150,000,000,000 a year, was higher than ever before in the country's history and was still going up.

At the same time the Chief Executive warned the country that a prolonged coal strike or ill-considered legislation such as he regarded the Pace farm-parity bill could knock the props from under this optimistic picture. He reminded that "we cannot afford to relax one minute our battle against inflation" and said economic chaos would follow failure to extend price control and stabilization laws.

RUSSIA; ARGENTINA GET PLEA FOR FOOD-London-The Soviet Union and Argentina neither of which was represented at the conference, were asked to come to the aid of a Europe, faced with certain malnutrition and probable famine, at the first session of the emergency conference on European cereal supplies which opened here today.

Representatives of eighteen nations and the quadripartite control council for Germany stressed the severity of the food situation in Europe.

As Philip J. Noel-Baker, British Minister of State, who was elected chairman of the conference, declared privation in the coming six months "is certain," and the task of the conference is to determine how the gap between supplies that will be reported into Europe and the needs of the European Governments can be filled.

NORSE FOOD RECOVER WINS HOOVER'S PRAISE-Oslo, Norway-Former President Hoover paid tribute to Norway, in a talk with the Norwegian press this afternoon, for having managed in eleven months to restore the country's food situation to a point where 750,000,000 tons of fish are available for export to starving Europe.

He said his talks with Government officials yesterday and today had revealed that Norway's recovery was so marvelous that the fat ration now was roughly a pound a week and the country now was exporting whale oil, potatoes and other similar vitamin-rich commodities, easing Europe's food plight.

Mr. Hoover said that what Norway needed in the way of grain, vegetables and so on would make no inroads on world stocks, particularly in view of what Norway was contributing to the outside

From Baltimore Sun, April 4 -

DODD NAMED FIRST AIDE TO AGRICULTURE CHIEF-Washington-President Truman today nominated Norris E. Dodd, of Oregon, for Under Secretary of Agriculture to succeed J. B. Hutson, who resigned to become assistant secretary of the United Nations. Dodd, a rancher, has been director of the field services branch of the Agriculture Department's production and market administration.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N. Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 4 -

COTTON MOVES UP TO 22-YEAR HIGHS-Under persistent trade and commission-house support, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange rose yesterday to new twenty-two-year highs and closed virtually at the best levels of the day, up 17 to 33 points net. Starting 2 points off to 5 points up, the market rose steadily. Distant months were strongest.

Buying was spurred by a report of a vote of 20 to 3 in favor of decontrol of commodities when supply and demand balance before the House Banking and Currency Committee. It indicated to many in the cotton trade the trend of thought toward less curbs in the future by the Office of Price Administration.

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TRADERS IN GRAIN COOL TO U. S. PLAN-Chicago-Announcement that the Government had offered farmers a certificate program to induce them to sell cash wheat fell flat as a market influence today on the Board of Trade. Brokers said that the plan probably would not meet the success expected, as producers are not guaranteed against a decline in the price, and other factors count for little.

September wheat was $\frac{1}{4}$ cent a bushel under the ceiling at the close for trading yesterday, but ended today at the ceiling, joining other deliveries.

Active deliveries of oats gained $\frac{1}{4}$ cent today and May rye rose $1 \frac{3}{4}$ cents. December barley was up $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. Other deliveries of rye and barley were unchanged. Corn likewise was unchanged.

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COMMITTEE VOTES TO RID OPA OF MAP-Washington-Administration forces lost a major fight today but won another at the House Banking and Currency Committee's executive session on extension of the Price Control Act beyond June 30.

The setback, a serious one in the eyes of Office of Price Administration officials, came when the committee, by a 12-to-11 vote, approved an amendment to abolish July 1 the OPA Maximum Average Price program.

Defeated 15 to 9, was a Republican amendment to limit OPA's life to April 1, 1947, and to provide for automatic de-control of prices once supplies of any commodity came within 95 per cent of a pre-war average.

Approved instead, 20 to 3, were provisions offered by Representative Paul Brown, Democrat, of Georgia. These would give to the President responsibility for ordering termination of price controls on any commodity or group of commodities once the domestic demand had been satisfied and would authorize extension of the law to June 30, 1947.

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From New York Herald Tribune, April 4 -

WON'T CUT BREWERS' STOCKS-London-Food Minister Sir Ben Smith rejected today a suggestion in Commons that Britain divert nearly half a million tons of barley malt and other foodstuffs from brewers to aid the world food crisis.

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BANQUETS CUT TO 9 COURSES-Tientsin-The municipal government decreed today that banquets will be limited to nine courses. Shark fins, bird nest soups and imported liquors may not be served.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 4 -

OPA LIFTS MARGINS ON COTTON FUTURES, Washington - In an attempt to hold raw cotton prices to a level where they will not endanger current ceiling prices of cotton textiles, the Office of Price Administration today officially issued its order requiring uniform higher margin requirements for transactions in cotton futures.

Further rises in war cotton prices above current levels would mean that OPA would have to recalculate its cloth ceilings, a step which the price agency has already said the price agency has already said was impracticable at this time. However, if the margin move does not provide the desired results, OPA may eventually have to move to "escalator" pricing—Tying cloth ceilings to rising and falling raw cotton prices.

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TRADE AWAITS DATA ON ALASKA DAMAGE, - Canned foods traders yesterday reassured by reports that the Pacific tidal wave had not importantly damaged Hawaiian pineapple plantations, were seeking data on the effect of the disturbance on Alaska, with particular reference to the coming season's pack.

Early reports indicated no serious damage to salmon canneries, but concern was still expressed that some plants in more outlying districts might have been affected. Too, it was feared that the tidal disturbance might have wrecked many vessels of the salmon fishing fleet, although there was nothing definite to substantiate such concern. In other quarters, traders were speculating upon the possible effect of the tidal upheaval on the run of salmon during the coming season. The extremely short supply position on all grades of salmon tended to heighten this concern.

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DAIRY PRODUCTION SPURS SCRUTINIZED, Washington - Officials of three Government agencies today said higher retail prices for milk, butter and cheese were probable.

Representatives of the OPA, Agriculture Department and Office of Economic Stabilization met for the second consecutive day to draw up a program to check declining output of dairy products—and to avert strikes and shutdowns in the industry.

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MAY RYE LEADS RALLY IN GRAINS - A late buying flurry carried May rye and deferred oats deliveries above previous closings after indecisive action during much of the session at Chicago with sentiment influenced by strength in other markets and a growing belief that the Government certificate plan to increase farm selling of wheat will not prove sufficiently attractive to bring about any appreciable improvement.

September wheat recovered its fractional loss of the previous day, regaining the ceiling at the opening and holding there throughout the session.

Beneficial snows were reported in Northwestern spring wheat areas while the weekly weather report stated that conditions were mostly favorable for seeding, germination and growth of small grains.

Turn to page 4 for other items from
today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce)

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Farm Digest 695-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 4 (Cont) -

MILL WHEAT STOCKS CONTINUE TO DROP - The continued shrinkage in wheat stocks held by mills was holding flour sales at a very low level and unless early relief is provided it was predicted that the volume will steadily decrease.

Immediate effects of the certificate plan to step-up country selling of wheat were not apparent, and several days may elapse before any trend can be determined. Meanwhile, however, trade spokesmen were inclined to doubt whether any material improvement will materialize in the flow of wheat to mills, and reports from the Southwest indicated that many mills may be forced gradually to reduce their operations shortly with a considerable number possibly forced to shut down by the middle of May.

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IMPORTS BOOSTED BY FUR, WOOL, COFFEE, TOBACCO, Washington - Increased imports of furs, coffee, unmanufactured tobacco and unmanufactured wool accounted chiefly for January imports topping December by 43 per cent, the Census Bureau reported today.

January imports were \$399,000,000, compared with \$279,000,000 for December.

United States exports also rose, going to \$780,000,000 in January from \$715,000,000 in December, due mainly to increased shipments of meat products, unmanufactured cotton, tobacco, wheat and wheat flour.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 4 -

WILSON & CO. IS ENJOINED NATIONALLY FROM PRICE VIOLATIONS, Oklahoma City - Federal District Judge Stephen S. Chandler, charging that Wilson & Co. had attempted "a cleverly devised and planned scheme" to violate O.P.A. ceiling prices, clamped a nationwide injunction order on the meat-packing-firm.

The injunction specifically prohibits Wilson & Co. from violating any provisions of the 1942 price control law or any regulation issued by the O.P.A....

Judge Chandler said in his formal report that it was his belief that three witnesses called by the O.P.A. had made false statements on the witness stand. The three, all Woods County, Okla., poultry raisers, testified at a hearing that they did not receive above ceiling prices for turkeys sold to Wilson in November, 1944.

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AMERICAN TOBACCO CO. SALES ABOVE 1945 LEVEL, Flemington, N. J. - Both unit sales and dollar volume of American Tobacco Co. in January and February this year were substantially above those of the first two months of 1945, Paul M. Hahn, vice president, told the annual meeting of stockholders.

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SWIFT INTERNATIONAL CO. TO INCREASE ITS STOCK, Chicago - Shareholders of Swift International Co. Ltd. have voted to double the authorized capital stock of the company, increasing the present capitalization from 22.5 million pesos (Argentine gold) represented by 1.5 million shares with a par value of 15 pesos each, to 45 million pesos represented by 3 million shares of like par value it was announced by Joseph O. Hanson, president.

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From St. Paul, Minn., Pioneer Press, March 31 -

'CATTLE BY WIRE' WILL AID GREECE - You can telegraph an animal to Greece to help that tiny nation get back on its feet after the ravages of war.

That's right. You can telegraph in much the same way that people telegraph flowers.

The Greek War Relief association, which is opening the largest animal and livestock procurement program ever undertaken by any relief association, is making the arrangements.

Money may be telegraphed to the Greek War Relief association, New York City.

The money in turn will be given to UNRRA to purchase the animals. Studies of Greek needs reveal that top priority now must be given to livestock.

Greece now has some 24,000 head of livestock, Kleason said. In 1935 it had 400,000 cattle, 50,000 horses, 70,000 mules and 90,000 donkeys. Horses are needed for transport and farm work.

Under the plan, individual Greek Americans and other friends of Greece can purchase a mare for \$98 or a heifer for \$180 and have it shipped to Greece. Several boatloads of animals already have been sent.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, March 27 -

ELECTRIC POWER JUST STARTING ON FARMS - The Wisconsin farmer is just starting to use electric power.

Of the 178,000 farms in Wisconsin, more than 134,000 are now using electricity. There are more than 30,000 more farmers just waiting for the power line to come down their roads and not caring much whether the corporation utilities, the rural electrification administration or municipally owned plant get there first. They just want power in a hurry.

Research and experience has proved to the farmer that electricity is not a luxury but a labor saving device of great importance.

Power enables the American farmer to outproduce any other farmer in the world. And we can go much further, Dean Ira L. Baldwin said Tuesday at the opening of the three day farm electrification short course at the University of Wisconsin college of agriculture. More than 200 men, all interested in rural electrification, are attending.

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From The Davenport Democrat and Leader - March 31 -

2 BOXCAR PRIORITY ORDER SUSPENDED, Washington (AP) - The government announced suspension Saturday of two boxcar priority orders saying the demand for grain loading in the west does not justify them.

"It now appears," an office of defense transportation statement said, "that there is a sufficient supply of boxcars available to move all grain at hand in the west and northwest, and to meet the requirements of the government's program for relief shipments overseas without the need of priorities."

One order gave leeway to grain moving from country elevators to terminal elevators and applied to the region west of Buffalo, Pittsburgh, the Ohio and Mississippi.

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From The Kansas City Times, March 30 -

FRUIT WORRY ON AGAIN; Season Too Farm Ahead, With Trees in Bloom. Weather Bureau Chief at Springfield Gives One Chance in Ten of Escaping Damage, Springfield, Mo., March 29 - Farmers, especially fruit growers, not only of the Ozarks region but over nearly all the nation, seeing their fruit trees in full bloom nearly a month ahead of normal schedule, are beginning to worry over the March heat wave which has engulfed even the far northern states the last few days, according to C. C. Williford, chief of the United States weather bureau here.

He recalled that at this time of the season there usually is a pretty good coating of ice and snow.

However, the weatherman said, the snow is all gone, together with the frost from the ground, all the way to the Canadian line. Ice in the upper Great Lakes region has disappeared like magic, he declared. Thursday saw readings well up into the 70s as far north as Bimidji, Minn., "ice box" of the nation in winter months.

Over the entire Ozarks region, peaches are shedding their bloom petals, together with plums and apricots. Cherry trees are opening and apple buds are ready to burst open.

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From The Davenport Democrat and Leader, March 31 -

FOUR MONTHS OF FOOD, Editorial, Ex-President Hoover, in charge of feeding the hungry overseas, said shortly before leaving for Europe that the really critical period of need would last only four months -- 120 days. This is the time, right now, when some people are starving, actually in danger of death, when others are undernourished to a dangerous degree, and nobody has enough to be really safe. There should be no argument about instituting rationing again -- it would take three or four months to get it going. There should be no gripe about bread percentages or anything else. Food should be sent as fast as trains and ships can be found to take it. It is right for UNRRA to try to allocate the food supplies equitably. But that effort should not be allowed to hold up sending food for a single day. Better some wheat, quick, today, than the exactly right amount later. Inequities can be adjusted after the first need is met.

We are said to be short 38,000,000 bushels on our foreign commitments of wheat. Why not take half of it from our normal domestic carry-over, right now, and make up the carry-over by eating one slice of bread instead of two from now till fall? It's not a time for fussing. It's time to feed the hungry. Let's do it.

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From The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, March 31 -

FORMER G.I. JOES LEARN SCIENTIFIC FARMING; GOVERNMENT FOOTS THE BILL-- The Federal Government believes that the farm is the foundation of a sound national economy, and that money spent in teaching farmers scientific methods is an investment which will pay large dividends in the future.

This is evidenced by the recently-inaugurated practical G.I. agricultural training course for veterans, sponsored by the Veterans Administration through the County Boards of Education. Already 74 Shelby countians have enrolled. More applications are being received daily.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 5 -

SENATE AGAIN LINKS FARM-PARITY TO PAY-Washington-Casting aside back-stage bargainings and defying for a second time the direct veto threat from President Truman, the Senate again wrote into the minimum wage-increase measure, by a vote of 46 to 38 late today, the Russell (Pace) farm parity price raising amendment which the Administration holds would add \$4,500,000,000 to the annual food budget of the housewives of the country.

Before doing this the Senate voted, 76 to 6, to hold the increase in the legal minimum wage to 60 cents an hour, effective in ten months, rather than to permit it to advance to 65 cents in four months and to 75 cents by 1950, as the President and a majority of the Committee on Education and Labor had recommended.

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POPE BID WORLD PREVENT FAMINE; FEARS FOR PEACE-Rome-In a radio appeal to the world tonight, Pope Pius XII declared "The sinister shadow of famine rests upon at least a quarter of the entire population of the globe," and warned the more fortunate parts of the world's population that political disorder arising from such conditions would be their responsibility if they failed in their duty to help those who were hungry.

Hunger, he said, will kill more than all those slain in this war unless all nations help those who are worse off than they are.

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LA GUARDIA VOICES WHEAT PLEA AGAIN-Burlington, Vt.-In a new appeal to American farmers to sell their wheat to the Government for shipment to Europe and Asia, former Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia, director general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, declared here today that UNRRA needed 700,000 tons of wheat a month for immediate delivery if mass starvation abroad was to be averted.

"Under the new rule announced yesterday the American farmer is asked to deliver his wheat to the Government at once," he said.

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CLAY TO SEE HOOVER ON GERMANY'S FOOD-Berlin-Lieut. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, Deputy Military Governor of Germany, is leaving Berlin today for a conference with former President Herbert Hoover this week-end at an unrevealed location to discuss the critical food situation of this country. He will seek Mr. Hoover's cooperation in a plea to the Combined Food Board in Washington for allocation of the next quarter's distribution of grain in advance of the scheduled session in June as the only possible method of averting the catastrophic consequences of adherence to routine procedure in this instance.

(Turn to page 2 for other items
in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, April 5 -

NET GAIN OF 7/8 CENT SCORED BY MAY RYE-Chicago-May rye advanced 2 1/8 cents a bushel at one time today on the Board of Trade, coming within 1/2 cent of equaling the twenty-five-year high mark established early last month. Stop loss orders were uncovered on the way up, but this was offset to a large extent by persistent commission-house and local selling the finish was on a reaction which left a net gain of 7/8 cent. A car of No. 3 rye sold in the spot market at 13 cents over May. The distant futures of oats were up 1/4 to 1/2 cent early but eased and finished 1/4 cent lower to 1/2 cent higher than yesterday. Wheat, corn, May oats and the distant deliveries of rye held at ceiling prices.

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PRICES FOR COTTON OFF 7 TO 15 POINTS-Cotton futures on the New York Cotton Exchange moved over a fairly wide range yesterday and closed with net losses of 7 to 15 points. After opening 3 to 10 points down, they steadied, but later broke to losses of 16 to 25 points on active months on commission house and New Orleans selling attributed to the action of the Office of Price Administration in ordering higher margin requirements on cotton futures.

A flood of protests from farm bloc members of Congress, however, brought about part recovery in prices, as did a report that the farm parity amendment had been left in the minimum wage bill, after the Senate had adopted the Ellender amendment reducing the minimum wage from 65 to 60 cents an hour.

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From The New York Herald Tribune, April 5 -

U. S. STUDIES SHARP CUTS IN USE OF FOOD-Washington-A new food-conservation program which would place brakes on American bread consumption to minimize world starvation is under consideration in top Administration levels, it was learned today.

The State Department and F. H. La Guardia, new Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, are reported to be prepared to make strong representations direct to President Truman, if in fact they have not already done so in conferences early this week.

It is predicted by some officials that a new set of more stringent measures than those outlined in the President's Feb. 7 famine statement will be forthcoming quickly in the light of worsening of conditions and the failure of American shipments of wheat to meet expectations.

Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, will carry a report to the White House tomorrow morning (today) showing that American wheat exports during the first three months of 1946 were far short of the million tons a month goal.

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From The Baltimore Sun, April 5 -

COTTON MOVE COMMENDED-Washington-Seven organizations representing consumers, business men and farmers today commended Chester Bowles for his "action to check speculation in cotton by raising margin requirements."

They said in a telegram to the stabilization director that there can be "no justification for allowing speculation to increase clothing prices at this time."

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 5, -

COAXING OUT THE WHEAT, Editorial - That government intervention, not to call it meddling, in ordinary trade processes feeds upon itself is now strikingly demonstrated in the "certificate" device for persuading farmers to market their wheat.... The Commodity Credit Corporation has arranged that the wheat raiser who still has some on the farm may eat his cake and keep it, too-- for speculative purposes. He delivers his grain to the country elevator tomorrow or next week and receives a receipt for the number of bushels delivered. Then he chooses to exact payment on any day up to March 31, 1947, at that day's market price.

Though there is a so-called ceiling price for wheat, the ceiling is "geared" by law to the parity price, which in turn is fixed by a statutory formula dating back to 1935. If things the farmer buys rise in price--necessarily they are rising and will go higher in consequence of the current wage uplift-- the parity price rises too and with it the O.P.A. ceiling. And besides, Congress might put O.P.A. out of business, but not the parity formula nor the two-year post-war guaranty of 90 per cent of parity. So the farmer is in no hurry to market his wheat.

Senators and representatives from the grain states and men in the grain trade alike doubt that the certificate plan will bring out the farm reserves of wheat. If it doesn't work very well, some other device of intervention will doubtless be tried. A cash bonus over the ceiling price, payable of course out of the United States Treasury, is already proposed. Having undertaken to manage agriculture for its good, the one thing the government cannot politically afford to do is to quit that job.

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FOOD SITUATION REPORTS - Argentina has agreed to ship 30,000 tons of wheat for the U.N.R.R.A. by May 1, the U.N.R.R.A. announced. It said 25,000 tons already has been shipped toward an overall commitment of 150,000 tons.

New U. S. cuts in bread supplies are being planned. The Agriculture Department is understood to be preparing an order to flour millers to reduce their shipments of wheat flour for domestic use by 25%. It may be issued in a few days.

New U. S. cuts in bread supplies are being planned. The Agriculture Department is understood to be preparing an order to flour millers to reduce their shipments of wheat flour for domestic use by 25%. It may be issued in a few days.

Holland announced a new cut in her bread ration so 50,000 tons of wheat can be shipped from the U. S. to France instead of to the Netherlands.

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MORGENTHAU OFFERS PLAN TO DOUBLE FATS, OILS SHIPMENTS - A four-point program to "more than double" this country's shipments of fats and oils to famine threatened areas abroad was recommended yesterday by former Treasury-Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr. Declaring that he already had outlined his plan to President Truman and Secretary Anderson and that the President had been "sympathetic" toward it, Mr. Morgenthau urged the Federal Government to: Increase the production of oil-bearing crops, have the packers take more lard off the hogs, step up the fat salvage program, and reduce our fats and oils carryover by 250 million pounds.

He explained that because the packers find it more profitable to leave fat on carcasses and market it with meat, millions of pounds of lard "go down the kitchen drain pipe." During January and February, only 12 pounds of lard were taken off each hundred weight of hogs as compared with a take-off of 14 pounds in 1944.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 5 -

REDUCTION SOUGHT IN FARM SUBSIDIES, Washington - Paring down of the Administration's request for agricultural subsidies loomed today as the House Banking and Currency Committee considered two amendments which would reduce and restrict the use of subsidy funds for farm products.

Representative A. S. Mike Monroney (Dem., Okla.), long a staunch supporter of the Administration's stabilization policies, offered an amendment which would limit expenditures of all subsidies of 75 per cent of the amount which the Office of Economic Stabilization has already requested and which provides that the rate of subsidy expenditures must decline no later than Jan. 1, 1947.

The Monroney amendment was offered as a substitute for an amendment of Representative Jesse P. Wolcott (Rep., Mich.), which would require that all agricultural subsidies be terminated not later than next Jan. 1, and that progressive reductions of 25 per cent each be made in expenditures every 45 days after July 1, 1946.

The fact that Representative Monroney offered an amendment cutting the amount of subsidy funds was interpreted as an admission that the committee will not completely accede to the Administration's request for subsidy funds in the next fiscal year.

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GRAIN MARKET REPORTS NO PICK UP IN WHEAT OFFERINGS - The domestic market displayed no definite trend as many traders remained on the sidelines awaiting new developments in Washington, particularly the report by House Food Investigating Committee. One report, which lacked confirmation, stated that the committee will recommend an increase in the ceiling price for corn and possible wheat.

There were still no indications of any pick-up in country offerings of wheat despite the certificate program announced by the Government earlier in the week and tightness in the cash market was said to be more acute than at any previous time with mills reporting constantly dwindling stocks.

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FIRST JAVA SUGAR EXPORTS SEEN IN 1949 - Batavia - A survey of the Javanese sugar situation issued today by the Netherlands Indies Government Information Service raised doubts that exports of sugar from Java could be started before 1949.

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CUBAN SUGAR SHIPS RETURN IN BALLAST - Twenty-two vessels, according to reports in sugar trade circles, are returning from Cuba in ballast as a result of action by Government officials in anticipating a shutdown of East Coast refineries on April 6 because of labor difficulties.

Now, whether the strike is called or not refinery operations will be sharply curtailed during April for lack of raw sugar, it is anticipated.

In the meantime, a meeting, of refining company officials, the unions and Government officials will be held in Washington today in an effort at mediation of the wage dispute. Some observers are hopeful that a settlement will be effected.

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From Watertown Daily Times, April 2 -

REDS SEEN SHUNTING FOOD PARLEY TO HIDE SECRETS, London -- Despite an embarrassed official silence, it is now possible for this correspondent to reveal why the three Soviet Republics -- Russia, Ukraine and Byelorussia -- refuse flatly to send representatives to the international conference on the world food crisis. The Russians do not want to be exposed to any situation in which they will have to reveal information about their own internal affairs.

They do not want to have to tell the amount of their own wheat stockpiles, their other food reserves, or what shipments they are making into the Balkans as part of their long-range plan to keep all their neighbors closely tied into the Soviet orbit as a security belt.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 2 -

RUBBER TO EASE FARMER'S LIFE, EXHIBIT SHOWS - New comfort and safety for the farmer and his animals is being promised by American industry in the form of war time inventions which now are beginning to appear on the market.

A glimpse of some of the things in store for the post-war farmer was put on display yesterday by the United States Rubber company. Six train loads of equipment designed to ease the life of the farmer, his wife, and his livestock are shown in the exhibition.

Industry finally has taken cognizance of the fact that the tractor is hard to ride. Foam rubber cushioned seats to make plowing and disking an easier task are displayed.

Rubber covered egg and vegetable bruising fruit are shown. There are rubber mats for silos to help prevent the silage from spoiling at the top; always a matter of concern to the farmer.

In one item, the usual role of rubber has been reversed. It has been transformed from an insulating material to a heat conductor. Rubber pads enclosing an electric wire heat up quickly and provide regulated temperatures from pig brooders, chicken hovers, and hot beds.

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From Des Moines Sunday Register, March 31 -

RURAL HEALTH AID IS URGED, Chicago, Ill. (AP) -- "Health services to a large portion of our rural population are alarmingly deficient," Representative J. Percy Priest (Dem., Tenn.) told a conference on rural health Saturday.

"Rural areas have about half as many hospital beds as do the metropolitan centers -- less than half the number they need to serve their people adequately," Priest asserted.

"The ratio of doctors to population in the metropolitan centers before the war was 1 to about 650; in the 1,000 most rural counties, it was 1 to 1,700."

Saying that residents of rural areas do not have sufficient purchasing power to avail themselves of health facilities, Priest added:

"Justice demands that the urban states, which are, in a sense, draining off the wealth of their rural neighbors, help to extend into our rural communities those facilities and services which are necessary to good health."

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, April 2 -

~~GETTING THE WHEAT~~; Editorial, The Department of Agriculture is trying again to make more wheat available for export. But the department has its fingers crossed.

The sweeping restrictions on the use and purchase of corn and feed grains which became effective yesterday depend, for full effectiveness, as the Washington officials concede, upon the wholehearted co-operation of men in the trade and of the farmers. Last week it was hoped that the order would redistribute the available feed through legitimate channels so that wheat would be released for export.

This week, however, the Department of Agriculture announces that further government action will be necessary, because the current order, in effect, merely rations existing supplies of feed grains. It doesn't make one more grain of wheat available to Europe.

A step that appears to have more merit is the suggestion made to Secretary Anderson by grain men that the government buy farm-held wheat on certificates that would protect producers from price rises at any time up to March 31, 1947. This plan has the approval in general of F. H. LaGuardia, new director-general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. This line of action at least gets to the root of the difficulty and offers the hope, as the current war food order does not, that the excess stocks of wheat can be brought out into the open.

From The Milwaukee Journal, April 2 -

FARM AND CITY TALK IT OVER - Farmers, organized labor, industry and consumers broke bread together Monday night at one of the series of "let's talk it over" economic conferences in the state scheduled by the Wisconsin council of agriculture. There were more agreements than conflicts on how to get faltering production rolling so that more people will be better fed from American farms. The biggest protest of the farmers was over the strikes and industry-labor unrest which has tied up so much the production of machinery and equipment that farmers must have.

"Why, we cannot even get seed drills," said the serious minded farmers. It was agreed that full production of goods, from automobiles to shirts, would prove an essential factor in reducing the pressure on foods.

"Not being able to buy all that consumers want of what they want, there is a record demand for whisky and food," said the economists.

From St. Louis Post-Dispatch, March 31 -

AID TO STARVING IS CHIEF TASK FOR LAGUARDIA, Washington, In taking over the administration of the United Nations Rehabilitation and Relief Administration Fiorello H. LaGuardia will aim at only one target: Groceries and more groceries for the starving.

All other aspects of the UNRRA program will be jettisoned or subordinated, so that funds and energy may flow into an ever-expanding food channel. The emphasis will be entirely on two question: How can we pry loose the food at home? How can we get food most quickly to the hungry?

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 8 -

INFLATION DANGER TO END BY JUNE, 47' SAY CONTROL HEADS-Washington-The Government's stabilization chiefs expressed the belief today that if the country kept up its determined fight, and if Congress passed the necessary legislation, the danger of disastrous inflation would be passed within a year.

Subject to these conditions, only rent controls and "some last remnants" of price controls should remain by June 30, 1947, it was stated.

Under the heading of "necessary legislation" heads of agencies administering the Government's stabilization program put first an extension by May 5 of the Emergency Price Control Act "without crippling amendments." This action, it was stated, would enable business men to plan ahead "confident" that price and costs would remain generally stable through the critical months ahead.

Food subsidies paid by the Department of Agriculture as a means of keeping commodity prices down have been particularly under attack. The stabilization agency heads who include Chester Bowles, director of the Office of Economic Stabilization, declared today that effective price control and the subsidy program were "indivisible" and urged continued subsidies as their second recommendation.

TO GET OUT THE WHEAT-Editorial-The Federal Government has announced a policy of accepting immediate deliveries of wheat from farmers through the Commodity Credit Corporation at the highest market prices prevailing between now and March 31, 1947. Under this policy the farmer can deliver his wheat to the country elevator immediately, receive a receipt for the number of bushels delivered, and then on any day up to March 31, 1947, elect to cash this receipt as of that day's market price. The Federal Government has taken this action in the hope that it will bring wheat immediately from the farms for the relief of the current famine emergency abroad. The offer is open until July 1.

The certificate plan may well help to bring out some urgently needed wheat that is being held back on the farms. But it is one more illustration of the way in which one Government interference in the market necessitates further Government interference.

And even the certificate plan does nothing to deal with the larger problem, caused mainly by a bad price relationship between corn and hogs--another product of Government intervention--which has led to excessive feeding of livestock and helped to intensify the shortage of wheat.

CONVERSION EASED FOR COTTON MILLS-Washington-Civilian Production Administration, in a move to make "more flexible" existing controls and to "facilitate fulfillment of cotton fabric goals," announced today a number of revisions in Government controls of cotton loom production.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 8 -

TALK OF PRICE RISE CUTS WHEAT FLOW-Chicago-Talk of a prospective increase of 25 cents or more a bushel in the price of cash wheat has been going the rounds of the grain trade for some time and finally has seeped into the area that produces the bulk of the surplus grain of the country. The result is that farmers show no disposition to sell wheat freely, and there is growing evidence, according to trade leaders, that the Government's export program will bog down unless drastic steps are taken to increase the flow of wheat from the farm into commercial channels.

So far the Government's participation-certificate plan announced a week ago has not increased the movement of cash wheat, and it is the general belief of the grain trade that unless this plan is coupled with one to guarantee farmers against a decline in price it will be largely ineffective in stimulating selling.

CASH CORN SCARCE-Chicago-Cash corn is becoming scarce, sales for deferred shipment from the country falling off rapidly since the start of the Government's feed grain conservation program. The program coincided with the start of general field work in the big surplus producing area in the Central West and consequently it has not had a chance to have any material effect on the general situation.

GRAIN TRADING IN CHICAGO-Chicago-Speculative interest in the grain markets slumped further last week to the smallest total in some time, sales of all futures on the Board of Trade aggregating 53,173,000 bushels or a daily average of about 8,900,000 compared with averages of 10,300,000 bushels the week before and 30,200,000 a year ago, when operations in rye were near a record.

COTTON STATISTICS A SPUR TO PRICES-Cotton prices in the domestic market advanced further last week to the highest level since the 1924-25 season. At the close on Saturday active futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange showed for the week net advances of 66 to 100 points following gains of 39 to 53 points in the previous week.

The rise last week was attributed to buying influenced by improvement in the statistical outlook for the staple, efforts of the farm bloc to raise parity by including farm-wage rates in the formula and attempts in Congress to restrict the powers of the Office of Price Administration and the Office of Economic Stabilization.

7 COUNTRIES WAIVE DUTY ON U. S. FOOD-The Governments of Norway, France, the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Italy and Poland have agreed to waive import duties and local ration regulations on food packages shipped to individuals and groups abroad through the Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe, Lieut. Gen. William N. Haskell, executive director of the group announced yesterday.

CPA RESCINDS BANS ON DRESS 'FRILLS'-Washington-Some of the frills and furbelows in the styles of women's garments, absent for three years of wartime austerity and necessity, were restored today by Order of the Civilian Production Administration.

NEW REGULATION COVERS FARM BUILDING REPAIRS, Washington - Authority to act upon applications for construction or repair of farm buildings other than farm dwellings has been delegated to the Department of Agriculture, the Civilian Production Administration announced at the week-end. The action, effective as of April 4, was taken by the issuance of Directive 43.

Applications for authorization to build or repair barns, hay sheds, chicken houses or the like above the \$1,000 a job exemption in veterans' housing program Order 1, which controls construction, should be made on Form CPA 4423 and filed with the local county Agricultural Conservation Committee.

CUBAN SUGAR TALKS COMPLETE CYCLE - The proposal made by the United States to Cuba to purchase the 1947 sugar crop as well as the 1946 just about puts the negotiations back to where they were last summer after the first proposal was made.

United States officials at the time admitted that they would buy the 1947 crop along with the 1946 if Congressional approval could be obtained. Cuba, however, would not agree then to sell 1946 and 1947 crops without the 1948 crop going in as well, since a fear prevailed that an easier market might develop in 1948.

According to the week-end officials, however, disclose that its lawyers have given the opinion that the 1947 crop could be bought along with the 1946, but nothing is said of the authority to buy the 1948 crop.

The American offer for the two crops is 3.67½ per pound f.o.b., the same as the offer for the one crop.

Trade sources predict that for the 1947 crop without the inclusive sale of the 1948 crop, Cuba will seek a higher price than 3.67½.

REDUCTION IN FLOUR OUTPUT IMMINENT - Cutbacks in operations by many mills were reported to be imminent at the close of the week with some expected to go on a five-day week and further reductions were held probable shortly if the wheat scarcity has not been alleviated.

Predictions were freely made that many wheat flour mills will be forced to close down within the next four to six weeks as wheat stockpiles were reaching very low levels and there was considerable skepticism regarding the success of any new measures which might be adopted by the Government to stimulate farm selling.

Fears were voiced that conditions which have favored extensive feeding of grains including wheat, to livestock over the past several months may have made such inroads into the supply that even a sharp advance in the wheat ceiling would bring about only a brief increase in the supply for mills, especially in view of Government wheat export requirements.

FIRST RUSSIAN WHEAT REACHES FRENCH PORT, Marseille - The Soviet Union's first shipment of wheat to France—5,380 tons—arrived here today on the Russian freighter Klim Voroshilov. A total of 500,000 tons of wheat and barley have been promised France by the Soviet Union, and other shipments are scheduled from Odessa in Soviet, French and United States ships. (A formal agreement by which Russia will sell France 500,000 tons of grain was signed in Moscow yesterday, the Moscow radio said. (The broadcast said the sales would be made "since Great Britain did not have the possibility of sending bread to France and the United States was not able fully to guarantee France's bread necessities.")

From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 8 -

U.S. OFFICIALS SEE END OF STRIKE AT INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER TODAY, Washington - Government sources predicted the 78-day-old International Harvester Co. strike would be settled today....

Representatives of the 30,000 striking C.I.O. Farm Equipment Workers met yesterday with company and Federal officials in a drive to end the protracted walkout. A note of high optimism prevailed, with labor and management reported on the brink of reaching an agreement.

Only one point of difference separates the company and the union. That is a disagreement on the question of allowance rules for piece work.

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MEAT WORKERS THREATEN TO RESUME STRIKE - Possibility of a resumption of a meat strike arose yesterday as delegates to a convention of district 6, C.I.O. United Packinghouse Workers of America, charged that big packers' "refusal to buy livestock" had caused layoffs of 20,000 workers in the past month, the Associated Press reported in New York, adding that Meyer Stern, district 6 director, said he would head a delegation which would call on Secretary of Agriculture Anderson.

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U.S. SUIT AGAINST A. & P. TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT, Danville, Ill. - The Federal Government's criminal anti-trust suit against the New York Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. was taken under advisement by Judge Walter C. Lindley. The Government alleged the food chain and 28 officers and subsidiaries conspired to gain a monopoly and restrain trade.

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WAGE BILL WILL RAISE FARM PRICES, SEN. CAPPER PREDICTS, Washington - Sen. Capper (R), Kan., predicted farm prices will rise if the Senate-passed Minimum Wage Bill becomes law:

"The farm price increases will result in increased food costs. They will result also in increased prices for farm lands--prices which I fear will be too high to enable these lands to produce foods and feeds and fibers at a profit a few years from now."

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O'MAHONEY INTRODUCES A BILL TO SUPPORT DOMESTIC WOOL MARKET, Washington - Chairman O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) of a special Senate wool investigating committee introduced a bill to sustain the domestic wool market.

Beginning with the 1947 wool clip, the Commodity Credit Corp. would be directed to support a price or assure returns to producers of wool in the United States at specified levels. The C.C.C. could dispose of the wool at prices which would permit it to be sold in competition with imported wool.

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From The Boston Herald, April 3 -

FOR BREAD EATERS ONLY, Tampa, Fla., (AP) -- Are you awaiting apprehensively the day when government-prescribed "brown bread" will hit the grocers' shelves?

Then relax. You've probably been eating it for weeks, the same as Tampa families, without even knowing about the changeover.

A check of bakeries disclosed that almost as soon as the government recommendation to save wheat was made, a blend of white and "brown" flour was put into effect. Little by little the so-called "brown" flour displaced the white.

"Very few people noticed the difference," bakers reported.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, April 3 -

ANOTHER PACKING HOUSE STRIKE? Editorial, There is a possibility, we read, that the strike of the packing house workers may be resumed. Despite the 16c an hour increase granted after the January strike, present take home pay of the owrkers has been decreasing, due to the large black market in animals that has cut down production in the big plants. Some 20,000 workers have been laid off in the Chicago area, and most of the rest have been reduced to a 36 hour week. Clearly the situation for these men is serious.

The question, however, is whether the situation would be helped by a strike, which would only mean that the remaining workers would join those already idle.

Surely the men cannot expect further raises in pay at this time, for this would merely add to present difficulties in combating the black marketers. The only effective answer to the workers' troubles is an end to the black market operations which are making it impossible for the big packers to buy cattle at the stockyards.

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From The Times-Picayune, April 3 -

STRAWBERRIES NEED PICKERS, Editorial, Tangipahoa and Livingston parishes need several thousand strawberry pickers, and if they get them the wartime "strawberry famine" will soon be mentioned only in the past tense. For there is a big crop to be picked in the Florida parishes belt where more berries are grown than anywhere else in the world. There is about 30 per cent more acreage, the prospect of a good yield, and a remunerative ceiling price of \$5.52 a crate. It would be a downright pity -- and a great loss to the American palate -- to see any of the fruit go to waste.

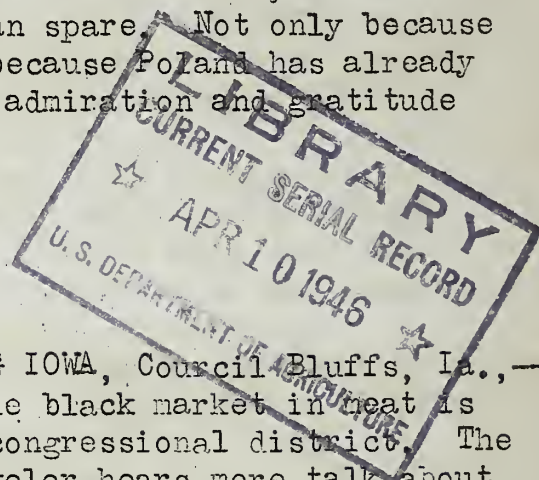
With the berries ripening fast, the shipping season will move quickly toward its peak. But the season's results this year may depend more than it has in the past on a sufficient supply of seasonal workers. Without enough pickers when the fruit begins to mature more rapidly later in the month, many a car of berries will waste away in the fields as the season draws to a close. But if there are enough pickers, some kind of a new record might be made in cleaning up and marketing the big crop without loss.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, April 2 -

STARVATION STALKS IN POLAND, Editorial, Well fed Americans ought to be thoroughly shocked by the report of Herbert Hoover on the famine conditions he found in war torn, desolated Poland. There have been so many startling accounts of starvation in various European countries that there is danger we may become a little bit callous. There have been so many emotional appeals in behalf of certain nations, and open to suspicion that they were strongly biased by racial, religious or political affiliations, that there is danger we may become a little dubious about the terrible facts.

But when Herbert Hoover reports that the food situation in Poland is the worst that he has seen, America must consider the awful import of those words. For Mr. Hoover is America's outstanding authority on famine and famine relief, and none can question that he has weighed his words and presented stark realities without exaggeration or prejudice. Herbert Hoover isn't given to exaggeration. Poland surely has one of the first calls on the food that America can spare. Not only because the need of Poland is more desperate, but because Poland has already suffered so much more. And because of the admiration and gratitude that is her due.



From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 2 -

CORN SHORTAGE, BLACK MARKETS TROUBLING IOWA, Council Bluffs, Ia., -- A black market in corn as a companion to the black market in meat is causing worry among farmers in Iowa's 7th congressional district. The OPA is looming as a 1946 issue and the traveler hears more talk about price ceilings than about candidates in this region. It is a great cattle feeding area, but it is running short on cattle feed. Complaints are loud that bootleg truckers and buyers from states as far south as Texas are hauling away corn bought above price ceilings, and black market sales are reported widespread. Farmers who bought feeder cattle, figuring on fattening them up, and now facing a corn shortage, have been getting rid of the unfattened stock on the market.

From Chicago Journal of Commerce - April 3 -

C.I.O. AND MEAT, Editorial, Because so much beef is going into the black market, packers have had less meat to process and have been forced to lay off workers. The C.I.O. United Packinghouse Workers, putting the number of layoffs at 20,000 charges that the packers are "refusing" to buy and threatens another strike.

It is difficult to understand why the union makes such a palpably silly accusation, for the men who work in packing centers know the predicament of their employers, who are caught between price controls and the black marketeers who know no ceilings. One explanation might be that the union's leaders are trying to take some of the heat off the Office of Price Administration and struggling to save some of the planned economy at the expense of their members' jobs.

Meat packers are in business to make money, and so long as they can do so they will not deliberately and arbitrarily reduce operations.

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D14 (The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Herald Tribune, April 9 -

U. S. MAY CUT FLOUR USE TO EXPORT WHEAT-Washington-A tentative order reducing domestic flour deliveries 25 per cent under those of the corresponding 1945 period for the next three months to help meet wheat-export goals for starvation areas will be discussed with fifty bakery and milling industry representatives at the Department of Agriculture Tuesday.

The plan contemplates that bread and other bakery goods will not be drastically slashed, since bakeries can draw on their supply inventories to maintain a near normal production during the limited period. Domestic supply pipe lines can be replenished quickly when the big winter wheat crop harvest begins in July.

Another order which would capture a larger amount of American fats and oils for export to world food deficit areas will be issued within a day or two, it was also learned tonight.

Another facet of the plan, which apparently has Presidential backing, is to put more power into the voluntary food conservation program, with the nation perhaps being asked to abstain entirely from bread for certain periods during the three-month crisis period.

From The New York Times, April 9 -

BUTCHERS EXPOSE TIE-IN SALE RACKET-The secret questioning during the last month of hundreds of retail butchers, it was learned yesterday, has given the Office of Price Administration affidavits that charge widespread illegal tie in sales by some of the nation's biggest packers and slaughter houses.

Callman Gottesman, OPA enforcement chief for New York City, who confirmed the existence of the unannounced investigation which is continuing, said the tie in racket in wholesale sales of meat was "worse than it has ever been." He said court actions were being prepared against the slaughterers and packers named by the retailers.

OPA FREES MANY CONSUMER ITEMS, NEEDLES TO MOPS, FROM CONTROL-Washington-UP-Office of Price Administration today suspended price controls on hundreds of consumer items of minor importance in the cost of living. They included needles and pins, mops and even domestic jeweled watches.

Some industrial items also were removed from price control.

These controls were being lifted, the OPA said, to lighten the agency's administrative load and to continue its policy of removing controls wherever possible. If prices on these items should rise much, the OPA would reinstate controls.

BELGIAN RECOVERY IMPRESSES HOOVER-Brussels-There is no starvation in Belgium it is solely a problem of maintaining the flow of food supplies to her ports at a rate of about 80,000 tons of cereals alone each month. Herbert C. Hoover said today at a press conference that ended the active phase of his mission there. He found however that this country was in the same position as ever other in Europe in its dependence on a regular supply from overseas.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 9 -

HOOVER SAID TO FAVOR BUYING TRUST-Brussels-Sources close to former President Hoover said today that he had discussed setting up a buying trust to handle all food purchases from South America for Britain, France, Belgium and Italy.

Mr. Hoover was said to feel that the present competition among European countries for South American food was costly and inefficient.

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MARKET BREAKS IN COTTON FUTURES-The cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange closed yesterday 29 to 50 points net lower on the day after having held fairly steady early in the session.

Prices started 1 to 8 points lower, and held around the previous closing levels for a while, but later met heavier commission house selling, stop loss selling, and less buying by mills.

The threat of a Presidential veto of any of the price control bills that contain the Pace parity revision, and the plea from executives of the Government's price control agencies to enact control laws as quickly as possible to check inflation, tended to increase the volume of selling in the cotton futures market.

As of today, the Office of Price Administration's higher margin rule becomes effective, and some would tend to check the amount of speculative buying in cotton futures, especially in markets outside of New York.

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RYE GOES UP AGAIN TO LIMIT FOR DAY-Chicago-May rye advanced 5 cents, the limit for one day, in the early trading, for the second consecutive time today on the Board of Trade and went to a new twenty-six-year high. Buying was attributed to Eastern interests and short covering, partly on stop loss orders. Profit-taking and weakness in cotton caused a recession from the top, but the finish was at a gain of 3 5/8 cents a bushel.

Active deliveries of oats lost 1/2 cent to 3/4 cent, largely on selling induced by the break in cotton and continued favorable weather and crop reports. Prices on wheat, corn, barley, May oats and the new-crop deliveries of rye were unchanged at the ceiling.

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WOULD LIFT CURBS ON '47 COTTON CROP-Washington-By unanimous vote, the House Agriculture Committee reported today a resolution to exempt the 1947 quotas and acreage allotments provided by the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

The exemption was recommended, the resolution said, "in view of the critical shortage of fats and oils and protein feeds," but there was doubt that the effect would be to stimulate planting.

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URGES SUGAR COST FREEZE-Havana-Freezing of the production cost of sugar will be necessary if the 1947 crop is to be sold to the United States at the same price as this year's crop, Senator Jose Manuel Casanova said today.

The Senator, who is a member of the National Sugar Institute, said he spoke from the personal viewpoint of a sugar producer.

From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 9 -

U.S. BAKERS prepared to fight Government plans to restrict domestic use of wheat.

Their objections will be presented by trade representatives this morning at a meeting with the Agriculture Department. The Department has been reported planning an order which would reduce millers' flour deliveries by 25%. Such a move, said President McCarthy of the American Baking Association, might halve bread production in some areas and would create a black market in bread.

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WHEAT CERTIFICATES won't pull much grain out of farm bins. Under this newest get-the-wheat plan, the Government says to the farmer: Give us your wheat now, we give you a "certificate," and you cash in the certificate any time before next March 31 at the price prevailing when the certificate is redeemed.

On the surface a can't-lose proposition for the farmer, there's a joker in the set-up. It's the black market. What the Government will pay on cashing a certificate will of course be the legal price. With wheat "legally" bringing \$1.83½ a bushel at Chicago under the ceiling, some farmers openly admit they can get \$3.00 from frantic livestock feeders.

For another thing, the black market money is cash-on-the-barrel-head. If a farmer takes a certificate thinking wheat prices will be higher six months hence—he gets no cash in the meantime.

From the Government's side, the certificate plan is a sure-to-lose bet. Passage of the Pace Bill to lift "parity" prices could hike wheat 55 cents a bushel.

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CIGARETTE PRICES are likely to be raised half a cent a pack. With unmanufactured tobacco costs sharply higher, O.P.A. officials have long been considering a petition for a boost in the cigarette ceiling. They are now reported feeling that manufacturers of the smokes are entitled to a boost of 25 cents a thousand. This figures out to half a cent a pack.

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SUNFLOWER SEED ground into flour enters the bread-food picture. Used in combination with wheat flour, the sunflower product makes light, velvety cakes, bread, pancakes. The flavor is milk, similar to rye but not as strong. Sunflower flour has high quality protein content and is a rich source of "B" complex vitamins.

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FATS AND OILS scarcity hits food businesses everywhere. Here's an example. A big Detroit doughnut-and-coffee emporium, serving 7,000 customers daily, needs 400 pounds of hydrogenated shortening every twenty-four hours. Because the shortening is so hard to get, the place is going on five-day-week operations. Even during the fats and oils scarcity of war years it held to six days weekly.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from - - -
today's N. Y. Wall Street Journal)

Farm Digest 725-46-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 9 (Cont) -

BUTTER AND EGGS note on skipping the "middle man," cutting the red tape, and forgetting the O.P.A.: New Jersey farmers with hens and cows and enterprise pack their wares in a basket and go knock-knocking from door to door among New York City residences. For each dozen eggs you buy you may purchase a half-pound of butter--at a price a "shade" above the ceiling.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 9 -

CANNED FISH: Radar will be used experimentally next month to help locate and keep track of fish schools, speed-up catches and insure large supplies needed to meet heavier demands.

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"IN TRANSIT" LOSSES: Wholesale Grocers are intensifying their campaign to minimize avoidable losses of food in transit. Better freight loading, packaging and handling would materially reduce damages. Freight damages. Freight damage claims on foods may have increased up to 500 per cent in the last few years.

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SUGAR: Sugar deliveries for the first two months of this year were off 23 per cent, while stocks held by refiners were up about half that amount over the same period of 1945.

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COTTON WOVEN GOODS OUTPUT RISES 3 P.C. IN FINAL QUARTER, Washington- A total of 2,071,000,000 linear yards of cotton broad woven fabric was produced during the final quarter of 1945, or an increase of 3 per cent over the third quarter, the Bureau of the Census reported today. Production was 11 per cent under the similar quarter of 1944, the bureau reported.

For the year 1945, production totaled 8,721,000,000 linear yards, or 9 per cent under the 9,547,000,000 yards produced in 1944.

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BRITISH RAW COTTON ASSOCIATIONS FIGHT GOVERNMENT'S CENTRALIZATION PROGRAM, Liverpool - The Liverpool and Manchester Cotton Associations, with the supports of the Spinners' Federation, are continuing their fight against the Government's centralization policy for the local raw cotton market. The Liverpool Association has appointed a special propaganda committee for this purpose and is soliciting support for a public petition of protest throughout Lancashire and Cheshire.

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From the New York Times, April 7 -

HOOVER STILL FIRM ON VOLUNTARY AID-London-Reaffirming his faith in the efficacy of voluntary methods of limiting United States food consumption for the benefit of the rest of the world Herbert Hoover said that the American people would respond to the present emergency by inviting the "unseen guest to every table" and discounted the effectiveness of compulsory rationing as a means of increasing the United States contribution to foreign food supplies.

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REPORT FROM THE NATION-The Deep South-Mississippi Prepares Farm Training for 100,000 GI's-New Orleans-Agricultural Mississippi is launching its ambitious farm training program for about 100,000 veterans of World War II.

The State Department of Education already has prepared 235 white and 115 Negro schools to conduct the institutional part of the program, and other schools, will be designated as needs dictate.

On-the-job training will be conducted on farms over which veterans have control or on farms on which they are tenants. Each veteran is scheduled to receive 200 hours a year of group instruction, 100 hours of individual instruction and 1,560 hours of on-the-job training in agricultural and livestock pursuits.

Mississippi's State Vocational Board has arranged to pay supervision costs up to \$20 per month per veteran, and the Federal Government will meet costs of the instruction program. Contract for carrying on the program was signed by the Veterans Administration and by the Vocational Department of the State Department of Education.---Midwest States-Plan for Wheat Certificate Evokes Scant Response--Omaha-Prevailing Midwestern sentiment indicates that the Government's new wheat certificate plan will not bake much bread for hungry nations. Early reaction ranged from amused skepticism to cold indifference.

Grain traders believe the program may bring a relatively small amount of wheat to market, but that it does not contain sufficient inducement to attract farmers holding out for higher prices.

One new and perhaps determining factor has been added to thwart the plan. The average farmer is now too busy to be interested. In addition, some previous objections remain to handicap this new program and the recently announced curbs on the feeding of grain to livestock.

(1) Farmers who prefer to do business with the rampaging black market can do handsomely by themselves on a cash basis and without taking a certificate that might conceivably decrease in value.

(2) The wheat farmer feels he has the whip hand in the situation and can force an outright increase in ceiling prices by holding out a little longer. By accepting the certificate offer he would be surrendering a strong bargaining position.

(3) Some will prefer to feed wheat to livestock despite the official Government frown on the practice, and a good many will save a sizable part of their 1945 crop for seed.

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From The New York Herald Tribune, April 7 -

London-The seventeen-nation emergency European food conference appealed directly to Argentina today to step up wheat exports and help avert starvation on the Continent.

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LA GUARDIA ASKS MORE WHEAT FOR STARVING LANDS-Washington-New "drastic action to bring larger quantities of American wheat to the relief of starving peoples abroad "will have to be taken," F. H. LaGuardia, director-general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration declared today, if present governmental efforts to meet this nation's commitments prove insufficient.

"We are centering all our efforts on wheat, because it is either that in April or coffins in June," he said in a statement.

At the end of his first week with the relief agency Mr. La Guardia reported that "there is no use pussyfooting the situation--U.N.R.R.A. is being kicked around."

He admitted that he had so far achieved little success in obtaining food for the agency and added: I don't mind being kicked around personally. In fact, I am used to it. But I'll be damned if I am going to stand for the kicking around of millions of hungry, starving, drying people."

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From The Washington Farmer, April 4 -

MUST CONSERVE FOOD-In every county in the State a committee is being formed to promote the conservation of food to help meet the need of an estimated 500,000,000 people in foreign lands faced with starvation. The need is to tide these people over until their 1946 crops are ready to harvest.

Serving as state chairman of the department of agriculture's emergency famine committee is C. P. Downen, state director of PMA. In each county the county AAA chairman is charged with local responsibility. These county chairman are setting up committees and laying plans for meetings of representatives of a host of organizations, including farm groups, commercial clubs, service clubs in the cities, schools, parent-teacher associations, the Red Cross and others.

"This is the great opportunity for America to demonstrate its humanity," said State Chairman Downen. "We need not go hungry to do it, for there is plenty for all if we will but conserve it. We must not fail to meet this responsibility."

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GOALS AND INTENTIONS DON'T JIBE-There is considerable variation between the goals for various crops set up by the department of agriculture and the intentions to plant as tabulated by the bureau of agriculture economics. Here are some of the "intentions" in percentages of the goals: Corn, 95 percent; wheat 101; oats, 102; barley, 86; potatoes, 99; sugar beets, 90. The peanut growers propose to plant 19 percent more than their goal; soybean growers 12 percent less; tobacco raisers, 2 percent more.

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From The Chicago Daily Tribune, April 5 -

OPA TRIES TO PUT 310 BUTCHERS OUT OF BUSINESS-The OPA began a campaign yesterday to drive out of operation 310 slaughterers in the Chicago area who have started in business since the OPA control order governing slaughterers was suspended.

James F. Riley, Chicago director of the OPA, said that when the control order was suspended 392 individuals or companies were licensed to slaughter and received quotas. Many of the additional slaughterers are restaurant men or food retailers, Riley said.

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D14 (The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Herald Tribune, April 10 -

BAKERS FACING 25% SLASH IN FLOUR DELIVERY-Washington-Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson said tonight a decision would be reached tomorrow on whether to issue an order reducing flour deliveries 25 per cent below 1945. He added that other steps in a broad famine prevention program are under study affecting meats, fats and oils as well as a program to strengthen the voluntary food conservation program.

Earlier, C. C. Farrington, chief of the department's grain branch, told a story meeting of protesting bakers and millers that a mandatory 25 per cent cut in flour is a "foregone conclusion."

Simultaneously, the world food crisis snowballed to a climax on the international front with the disclosure that F. H. La Guardia just entering his second week as new director of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, under threat of resignation, has called for immediate diversion of an additional 350,000 tons of wheat to prevent a complete breakdown of rations in five European nations supplied by the UNRRA.

The former New York Mayor, who trampled all over protocol last Friday in calling a meeting of combined food board representatives to present his demands, is to get his answer tomorrow at another meeting called by himself, it was learned.

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BLACK MARKET IN MEAT IS LAID TO PRICE CONTROL-Washington-The American Meat Institute, renewing its fight against OPA meat ceilings, contended before the Senate Agriculture Committee today that "the wasteful, scandalous, widespread and flagrant black market has been made possible by the price-control act."

Meanwhile, the Government authorized \$10,000,000 of additional subsidies to packers to cover additional costs during six weeks which elapsed between the time a wage increase was granted and the time they received price increases. A wage increase of 16 cents an hour was made retroactive to Jan. 26.

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SUGAR REFINERY UNIONS CALLED TO STRIKE SUNDAY-Washington-A strike of between 6,500 and 8,000 sugar refinery workers, recommended jointly today by leaders of seven American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations local unions for midnight next Saturday, will cause an acute renewal of the sugar shortage throughout the East, government officials said tonight.

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From The Wall Street Journal, April 10 -

"MOLD BRAN" DEVELOPED AS MALT SUBSTITUTE-Atlantic City-The humble molds, producers of penicillin and streptomycin, are now being turned to increasing alcohol production. A material called "mold bran" prepared by growing a mold named aspergillus oryzae, closely related to bread mold, has been found to be two or three times more efficient than malt in making yeast used in fermentation.

Underkofler, Severson, and Goering of Iowa State College described the new method to the American Chemical Society. It was worked out because of the serious shortage of malt during the war.

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From The Baltimore Sun, April 10 -

TOMATO PLANT SEEN AS WEAPON AGAINST SKIN DISEASE-Atlantic City-A new germ-inhibiting agent derived from tomato plants and succeeding experimentally where penicillin and streptomycin fail--offers potential possibilities as an "important weapon" against certain human skin and lung infections.

This was reported today by the American Chemical Society's one hundred and ninth meeting by Dr. Thomas D. Fontaine, one of a team of United States Department of Agriculture scientists who isolated the substance--called "tomatin"--in researches at the Beltsville (Md.) agricultural research center.

Asserting that the "potent" material was isolated from tomato plants in experiments originally designed to combat a damaging form of plant wilt caused by an earth fungus, Dr. Fontaine said tomatin later was employed--in test tube experiments--against certain fungus organisms that plague man.

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From the Journal of Commerce, April 10 -

RAILROADS TO CONFER WITH SHIPPER GROUP FRIDAY ON RATE RISE-Railroad traffic executives were whipping into final shape yesterday the carriers' application for a freight increase which is to be filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission next week.

As one of the final steps before the application is presented, the committee of traffic executives of the railroads which has been handling the rate matter will meet with representatives of the National Industrial Traffic League in Chicago Friday to discuss the rate increase application with the shippers. This is the usual procedure followed by the carriers before a petition for a rate increase is filed.

The traffic executives met in Chicago last week to map the railroad's case. There are thousands of items involved in the rate application.

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CANNED MEATS, UP FOUR FOLD, DUE FOR VIGOROUS PROMOTION-Many new canned meat products are now becoming available to the American consumer, a Journal of Commerce survey shows.

Developed during the war for the armed forces, these new items are now being readied for the civilian market on such a scale that the line of canned meats eventually may be almost four times as large as before the war.

Current production and marketing plans by packers contemplate the introduction of these new lines to the civilian market as soon as supplies of meat and tin permit.

Prior to Pearl Harbor, twelve canned meat items constituted the bulk of the established market for such foods, and their production was concentrated in the hands of relatively few packers.

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STANDARD PEAS OFFERED LOWER-There were reports on spot in the canned food market yesterday that some traders were offering standard Wisconsin peas f.o.b. canneries at \$1, compared with offerings at \$1.12½ to \$1.15 a few days ago.

Offerings of poor quality standards also tended to weaken the over-all position, it was stated.

(Turn to page 4 for other items in today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce)

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TRUMAN ACTS ON FOOD NEEDS, Washington - President Truman weighed the domestic supply and price potentials of his foreign famine relief program today in conference with Secretary Wallace, Stabilization Director Bowles and OPA Administrator Porter following a report by former President Hoover that widespread starvation in Europe was inevitable in the next three months unless the program was realized.

After the White House conference Secretary Anderson summoned a meeting of the full Famine Emergency Committee at the Department of Agriculture to consider further means of expediting food shipments to Europe. The cabled report from Mr. Hoover, honorary chairman of the FEC, and Dr. D. A. FitzGerald of the Agriculture Department covered the current situation in Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Finland.

Pleading for maintenance, with no reduction, of present rations in famine countries, the report said that the critical urgency of food needs of Europe could not be over-emphasized, that undernourishment was showing up in children and that tuberculosis was spreading rapidly.

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FARM 'STRIKE' CUTS WHEAT TO 43-YEAR LOW IN MARKET, Kansas City - A farmers' "strike" caused by the Government's assertions about a wheat scarcity which has caused growers to hold their wheat off the market was held to be responsible for the fact that Kansas City, normally the country's largest winter wheat market, today received the smallest number of carloads of grain in forty-three years.

Only twenty-four cars of grain arrived today, against an average last April of 295 a day. Through all last year an average of eighty-seven cars of wheat arrived here daily. Only nine carloads of wheat were among today's receipts, the rest being corn, oats, barley and the sorghum grain.

Walter R. Scott, secretary of the Board of Trade, declared that farmers have the wheat, that elevators are bulging with it, but the growers have decided against selling it now as a result of the Government's policy. They are holding the wheat for better prices, he said.

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DAIRY PRICE RISES HELD UP, Washington - Government officials said today that plans to allow retail price rises for milk, butter and cheese might be ruled out in favor of increased subsidies. They added, however, that there might be a combination of higher subsidies and perhaps smaller price increases than had been planned originally.

The Office of Price Administration and the Agriculture Department were reported to have recommended price increases, but the Stabilization Director, Chester Bowles, is understood to have objected on the ground that this would be too big a rise in the cost of living.

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CREAMERY CONCERN SETS SALES MARK - Sales of Creameries of America, Inc., in 1945 set a new high of \$29,645,364, G. S. McKenzie, president, reported yesterday in his annual letter to stockholders. This was an increase of 9.6 per cent over the \$27,054,828 volume in 1944.

Net income was \$1,315,071, including a \$224,663 nonrecurring tax adjustment for prior years, the report showed. This was equal to \$2.59 each on 507,006 common shares and compared with \$1,234,141, or \$2.54 each on 482,275 shares in 1944. Excess profits taxes, Mr. McKenzie said, were \$5.09 a common share. (Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Times)

From the New York Times, April 10 (Cont) -

COTTON PRICES MOVE OVER WIDE RANGE - The cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange moved yesterday over a fairly wide range, but closed steady near the best levels of the day 16 to 25 points net higher.

Starting unchanged to 12 points up, the market broke to losses of 7 to 21 points early in the session. There was considerable liquidation on the theory that the higher Office of Price Administration margin order for cotton futures, effective yesterday, would curtail buying power in the market. Later, however, the action of the House Rules Committee in reporting out the Pace Parity Bill stimulated covering, and some new buying, and the market rose steadily.

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PRICE RECORD SET ON RYE FUTURES, Chicago - A new high record for rye futures on the Board of Trade was established today, the May delivery advancing 5 cents a bushel, the limit, to \$2.37 7/8 and closing at the top. The previous record was \$2.37 in July, 1920. Cash rye kept pace with the upturn in futures....

Action of rye brought in short covering in oats late in the session and the active deliveries finished 1/4 to 3/8 cent higher. Wheat, corn, barley, May oats and the deferred deliveries of rye held unchanged at ceiling prices.

A growing scarcity of cash rye for milling usage and for tender on May contracts is back of the upturn in prices, brokers said. They pointed out that more than 50 per cent of the 2,648,000 bushels in the visible supply is held at Atlantic ports, presumably earmarked for shipment to Europe. The Canadian visible supply is less than 1,000,000 bushels and part of it is understood to be owned by exporters.

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 10 (Cont) -

RULE FORCING CO-OPERATIVES TO AIR FINANCIAL SETUP URGED, Washington - A proposal that cooperatives be required to disclose fuller information on their financial structure, particularly with regard to exemption qualifications, was advanced today in the first Congressional study made of the cooperative movement.

The study, prepared by the House Small business Committee following a year's investigation as well as consideration of a Treasury Department report on the tax advantages which cooperatives enjoy, otherwise gave cooperatives a clean bill of health and extended no support whatever to those who have sought to curb this form of business enterprise.

The proposal for more complete information with regard to financial structure took the form of a recommendation to Congress that the Bureau of Internal Revenue revise Tax Form 990, with a view to determining whether or not a cooperative is entitled to, and complying with, exemption qualifications and restrictions.

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FLORIDA CITRUS CO-OP TO BOOST SECTION PACK Lake Wales - According to announcement by Harold S. Norman, president, a huge citrus sectionizing unit with a capacity of 500,000 to 600,000 cases annually, is the keystone of a \$250,000 modernization program under way at the plant of Florida Citrus Cannery Co-operative here.

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From The Kansas City Star, April 7 -

SIGNS OF A BEEF SHIFT-Purchases of replacement cattle at Kansas City have lagged behind the volume of a year ago for five consecutive weeks, and some students of livestock trends wonder if this development, among others, might be a sign that producers and feeders are now inclined to adjust their operations to a future period of more normal demand for meat.

Also tending to support this view is the recent heavy marketing of fed steers from some parts of this trade area, the selling at times suggesting that finishers were in a mood to liquidate. The latest government reports likewise indicate that the general trend in cattle numbers is downward.

Some feeders, viewing present high prices of replacement kinds against a background of diminishing war influences, may have decided that a degree of caution was not out of place. When war demand for meat was at its height, much was said about the danger of a huge expansion in production and a subsequent collapse, such as occurred after World War I. It is possible that some in the industry may have taken that comment to heart.

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SEEK 5-DAY MILK WEEK-A 5-day work week for all dairy employees was endorsed by the Mid States-East coast dairy conference of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (A.F.L.) yesterday at the close of a 2-day meeting.

The conference comprises about 200 officers of milk unions throughout the Middle West and eastern seaboard, and claims to represent more than 100,000 milk wagon drivers and inside dairy workers. New York, Cleveland, Akron, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Chicago were among the larger cities represented.

R. O. Jackson, conference chairman, who is secretary-treasurer of the Milk Drivers union here, said the 4-day week would be the collective bargaining goal of milk unions in the immediate future.

The conference also adopted a resolution condemning the use of paper milk containers as a threat to existing wage scales and employment in the industry. It was estimated that widespread use of paper bottles would cut dairy employment by 50 per cent.

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From The Market Growers Journal, April -

PREVENT FAMINE-Editorial-Herbert Hoover says half a billion persons are on the verge of starvation. That is one-fourth of the world's population.

Don't let that billion word slide off. This is people, not dollars.

Wheat is the great transportable food and fats are gravely needed. The vegetable grower does not produce these, but when he grows and sells potatoes and other vegetables he relieves the domestic pressure on bread and so does his bit. Processed vegetables will likely play a part, particularly in dehydrated form.

So we have a part in the job of saving the world from the gaunt horseman of famine.

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From the Weekly Kansas City Star, April 3 -

WHY THE 'MILK STRIKE' FAILED-Editorial-The attempt of dairy farmers of Newton County, Missouri, to halt deliveries of milk to two processing plants at Neosho failed last week almost as soon as it was started. The leaders of the movement gave up their efforts to close down the plants when they were unable, by peaceable argument, to keep contract haulers from turning over their cans to the condenseries.

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From the Memphis Commercial Appeal, April 7 -

PRODUCERS PROTEST DIRECTLY TO BOWLES ON MILK PRICE DELAY - In a strongly worded telegram to Chester Bowles, director of the Office of Economic Stabilization, the MidSouth Milk Producers Association yesterday charged that either Mr. Bowles or OPA "wilfully mistreated us" in a plea for a price hike.

In the meantime Memphis' diversion milk "strike" passed its sixth day with only 10 percent of the normal supply being allowed for babies, hospitals and invalids, while the remaining 90 percent continued to go to cheese processors and similar users.

MILK STRIKE, Editorial - Diversion of 90 per cent of the milk normally sold on the Memphis retail market is causing loss and annoyance to all concerned in ways that are painfully obvious. If the diversion is long continued it will inevitably hurt the sources of production in the MidSouth area, and they were not adequate when the diversion began. This, in turn, will unnecessarily handicap and discourage the highly useful and constructive trend toward making this section one of the great dairy areas of the Nation.

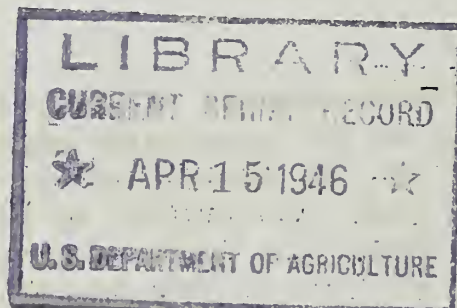
The Commercial Appeal feels that the Office of Price Administration has bungled its handling of the petitions of MidSouth milk producers for price increases from the start until the present. It has muddled and procrastinated, passed the buck without excuse, indulged in double-talk and in general dodged and cavorted according to the traditions of the bureaucratic wonderland of which it is, for the time being, a part. Particularly nonsensical has been the OPA's effort to penalize Memphis milk distributors for carrying on an efficient operation, for that is precisely what some of its arguments and contentions amount to.

From the Watertown, N. Y. Daily Times, April 4 -

NOW IT'S PEACE GARDENS, Editorial - Once they were victory gardens, now they are to be known as peace gardens, for though the fighting war is over, the gardens are to continue. Secretary of Agriculture Anderson has called for planting far beyond that of last year, and President Truman has appealed to those who are not farmers to produce all the food possible.

Thousands upon thousands in Europe are still hungry, would be threatened with starvation should America withhold her contributions. Wheat for bread abroad is desperately needed. Denied, the situation would probably result in political upheavals dangerous to the safety of the whole world, to say nothing of the resulting human misery. If a million more acres of wheat are sown in this country, America, already the best supplier with food, can afford to export her grain, and if the response with the individual home garden is as vigorous as though the war there will be abundance again in the United States.

Mr. America listens to these arguments about the grim necessity for cultivating his little plot and smiles. For at the very moment of appeal he is bending over a seed catalogue.....Call the gardens anything you like. He means to have his.



Farm Digest 735-46-6

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714 (The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the Wall Street Journal, April 11 -

FARM ANIMALS' HUNGER MEANS LESS MEAT; DAIRY PRODUCTS INTO 1947-Chicago-Food on your dining room table will keep on showing effects of the shortage in livestock feed until well into 1947.

Feed supplies, which already are further behind demand than at any time during the war, will reach a low point in June or July, just before the new crops begin moving to market. The full effects of the feed deficit, however, won't be translated into less meat, poultry and milk until much later. That's because you can't turn livestock production on and off like a faucet.

Distress selling of poultry is already widespread in areas where little grain is raised and farmers have to depend on grain shipped in from other sections. "Broilers" from the big poultry raising sections of Delaware, for example, have been moving as far west as Omaha. After they slumped six cents below ceilings recently, the Government stepped in and began buying to support prices.

Turkey eggs, ordinarily sold at a premium to hatcheries, have been going to the egg driers. Because of the cut in operations at eastern hatcheries, selected chicken eggs destined for this market (they usually bring an extra 10 cents a dozen) have been sold to retail stores.

The poultry liquidation that is taking place, however, won't have much effect on your Sunday chicken dinner and your breakfast fried eggs until this fall or even later.

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BIGGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO UNRRA-Editorial-The United States has made by far the largest contributions to the UNRRA as it played the chief part in relief and reconstruction work after the last war. Both for humanitarian reasons and because of the realization that a starving world cannot be an orderly or prosperous world Americans have hoped that hunger could be banished quickly after the end of hostilities. And they have backed this hope with generous shipments of supplies to many parts of the world.

Unfortunately the threat of hunger, and in some cases of downright famine, which hangs over so many parts of the world, is not just a natural disaster which could be quickly patched up by the despatch of adequate relief supplies. It is not by any means entirely an inevitable consequence of the war. The crimes of peace as well as the crimes of the war, have played their evil part. The spectre of hunger will not be laid until some of these crimes and blunders are recognized and corrected.

Violent displacements of millions of people on a scale unheard of after any previous war have been an important factor in depleting Europe's food supplies.

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WARD BAKING HEAD SAYS BREAD PRICE MUST RISE-A country-wide rise in the price of bread will be the inevitable result of the Government's plan to cut bakers' use of flour by 25%, Faris R. Russell, chairman of Ward Baking Co., stated at the annual meeting. Without a price increase, Mr. Russell continued, it will be impossible for the country's 20,000 small bakers to exist on the reduced business which would result from a cut in their flour supplies.

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From The Journal of Commerce, April 11 -

COFFEE MEN SEEK END OF CONTROLS-The membership of the New York Green Coffee Association yesterday urged removal of all coffee controls and return to a free market in continuation of its recessed meeting of the previous day.

In a memorial adopted for transmission to the Hon. Brent Spence, chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee of the House of Representatives, and to the Hon. Jesse P. Wolcott, a member of the committee, the association stated.

"Speaking for our membership, which includes the majority of importers, roasters, jobbers, agents, and brokers in this area, we urge the complete removal of all price and importation controls and subsidies on coffee in order to provide a free and competitive flow of coffee, to promote good will in the Western Hemisphere and remove the stigma of alleged United States control of prices in producing countries, and to increase the supply to the consumer of lower-priced blends, all of which, in our opinion, would cause only a moderate rise in the average price to consumers."

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GRAIN SHORTAGE CLOSES BUFFALO TERMINAL ELEVATOR-Buffalo-The 1,048,000 bushel Connecting Terminal grain elevator on the Blackwell Canal was closed today for the first time in seven years because of a shortage of grain for exporting and domestic milling.

Thomas C. O'Brien, vice president of the Superior Grain Corp., which owns the elevator, described the grain situation as "the worst I've ever seen in my life."

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RICE MARKET-With no spot stocks of rice, no prospect of early replacements, talk of probable higher Government set-asides, and the fact that only a few mills remain operating in the South, the market continues entirely nominal.

Retailer supplies are now quite low, and demand continues at an unusually high level, stimulated by cool weather, and the fact that substitutes are not only difficult to obtain in some instances but the asking prices are constantly mounting.

No change in the crop position was reported. Seeding was progressing, and the trade feels that every effort will be made to seed an acreage somewhat in excess of that planted last year.

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From The New York Times, April 11 -

WHEAT SUBSTITUTES SCARCE-Chicago-If flour deliveries are cut 25 per cent many bakeries will have to close and no substitute food will be available to consumers, S. W. East, official of the American Bakers Association asserted today.

Bakers will not be able to substitute oats, corn or other grains in their products as they did in World War I because of the shortages in supply, he said. Rye also is very scarce and its price is "practically prohibitive" since it has not been under price control he added.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, April 11 -

U.S. REJECTS BRITISH PLAN TO RATION BREAD, Washington - A British suggestion that the United States join England in bread rationing was rejected in favor of other "comparable" wheat-saving restrictions by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, following a hurried White House conference late today.

Earlier in a move similar to the British but without mentioning consumer rationing, Secretary Anderson sent cables to the food ministers of ten other countries, including Britain, asking them to reduce consumption of fats and oils to relieve starving areas and promising that the United States would curtail domestic consumption if joined by the other nations.

At a press conference tonight, following his rush to the White House after learning of the British bread proposal, Mr. Anderson issued the following formal statement, although he later made it plain that bread or other food rationing in the United States is not out of the question at a later date, depending upon developments.

"Circumstances that would make rationing workable in England are entirely different from conditions in the United States. It is much easier for a small nation, depending mostly upon imports, to control the distribution of wheat than for a large nation like the United States, which produces so much wheat over a large area.

ITALY ANSWERS STORIES OF FOOD IN RESTAURANTS, Rome - The Italian government, in a statement on the food black-market situation, has taken note of recent American newspaper stories describing the abundance of food in Rome's restaurants, and conceded that there are more food-vending spots here now than there were in 1938.

The statement, however, gave detailed statistics indicating that only 3 or 4 per cent of the population of Rome and similar cities is getting a normal amount of food. Noting that this number "still means 80,000 in such a city as Rome," the press office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said: "Even if those people cut their consumption down by one-third--and that is a lot to ask of human nature--they still could provide only another 80,000 with a near-normal diet. What about the rest of the Roman population of 2,000,000.

TRUMAN HOLDS TO VETO THREAT ON FARM PRICES, Washington - Administration supporters in the House rallied today for a knockdown fight with what they called the twin foes of President Truman's stabilization program--inflation and the farm bloc.

House committees put the finishing touches on a bill to extend price controls for one year until July 30, 1947, and began to work on another to raise the national minimum wage from 40 to 65 cents an hour.

But both faced hard sledding in and out of committee, with the added complication that the powerful farm bloc was threatening openly to tack its favorite rider--linking farm parity prices to industrial wages--on any or all of the Administration's pet bills.

From the New York Herald Tribune, April 11 (Cont) -

BOOST IN BREAD PRICE SEEN IF FLOUR IS CUT - The government's plan to reduce bakers' use of flour by 25 per cent will result in an increase in bread prices, Faris R. Russell, chairman of the board of Ward Baking Co., declared yesterday at the annual meeting here. The country's 20,000 small bakers would find it impossible to exist on curtailed volumes which would result from a cut in the flour supply unless prices were raised, Mr. Russell asserted.

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MEAT BLACK MARKET'S COST, Washington - The Senate Agriculture Committee was told today that meat black markets are levying tribute at a rate of over a billion dollars a year on housewives.

R. J. Eggert, associate marketing director of the American Meat Institute, said a check-up in Washington during the last week in March showed 90 per cent of the markets here selling one or more cuts at over-ceiling prices.

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'WORLD BALANCE SHEET' URGED IN FOOD PROBLEM - Creation of a "world balance sheet" on food to determine supply and demand on a continuous basis was urged yesterday by Clarence Francis, chairman of the board of General Foods Corp., at the annual stockholders meeting. The "world balance sheet," Mr. Francis declared, should be based on a systematic, world-wide, factfinding survey....

Commenting on governmental policy toward prices, he said that price controls must "encourage, not discourage, production," and added that "increased production is the only sure cure for inflation in the long run."

Despite shortages, rising taxes, higher operating costs and price controls, Mr. Francis noted, General Foods has increased sales, maintained efficiency and added to the tangible assets behind each share of stock.

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From the Baltimore Sun, April 11 -

PROBABLE EFFECTS ON MR. PACE'S PARITY INFLATION PLAN, Editorial - Representative Pace now announces that he won't try to hitch his scheme for inflating farm parity price to the OPA extender bill. Why is Mr. Pace abandoning his efforts to put his scheme over by attachment to a more urgent bill, thus affording it protective coloration which it lacks in its own right? Without attempting to read anybody's mind, one may wonder whether a widening knowledge in Congress of just what the Pace plan would do has had some effect.

To begin with, Secretary Anderson of the Agriculture Department says the Pace scheme would inflate present parity prices by about 33 per cent..... As most people know, in order to get farm bloc acceptance of price control, the Roosevelt Administration had to agree to a price-support program in the major crops, which will extend now at least to January 1, 1949. This program calls for supports at 90 per cent of parity and at 92.5 per cent of parity in cotton.

If the Government should have to support prices 33 per cent higher, the whole support scheme might blow up in a way to ruin the farmers and set back the whole notion of Government planning for years. Having had a chance to think these grim possibilities over, it may be that some of the canner farm leaders are content to settle for the bird in hand and renounce Mr. Pace's glittering vision of two plumper birds in the bush.

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From New Jersey Farm and Garden, April, 1946 -

MANAGED ECONOMY ISN'T WORKING, By Willard H. Allen, - The serious feed shortage which concerns every dairy and poultry farmer in New Jersey can be traced to the failure of what has been described as a managed economy. However, those who are directing the government agencies charged with the administration of such a planned economy are not to blame. Perhaps, no other group of officials could accomplish any more than those now at the helm.

A managed economy is supposed to operate as a substitute for the harsher laws of supply and demand. Some degree of success might be achieved if the human element and the profit motive could be eliminated or restricted.

In spite of directives and regulations, the ever-constant relationship between supply and demand remains all-powerful regardless of government edict. Those who are interested and clever enough can determine the market value of any product by estimating the current supply and the anticipated demand.

At present the Mid-West farmers are just as aware of the confused and difficult grain situation as the Northeastern broiler and turkey growers were a year ago. From their viewpoint there is no incentive to sell their grain. In fact, good judgment dictates a policy of withholding shipments. They have learned that their grain, rather than their cash, is a better trading commodity of far more value whenever they seek to obtain certain items which money cannot buy. For the present, at least, money has lost much of its value to the grain farmer.

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From The Times-Picayune New Orleans States, April 7 -

STATE REA WILL PONDER CONTROL, Lafayette, La., - Progress of the REA program, its problems and its general welfare were topics of discussion at a statewide meeting of 13 co-operatives, including every section of Louisiana, held Thursday. Foremost to receive consideration was a proposal that the REA in Louisiana be placed under jurisdiction of the Louisiana Public Service Commission. It was finally decided to have each board return to its individual co-operative to consult with the general membership in immediate meetings, and the consensus of these meetings will be forwarded to the Public Services Commission.

Over 46,000 members were represented by these 13 REA co-operatives in Louisiana

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From New York Herald Tribune, April 7 -

MILK SHORTAGE PREDICTED UNLESS PRICES ARE RAISED, Utica, N. Y., - The president of the Dairymen's League Co-Operative Association predicted today that the supply of milk and other dairy products next fall "will be less than at any time during the war" unless the government paves the way for higher prices to producers.

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From The Kansas City Star, April 6 -

TOO EASY WITH THE OPA, Editorial, As expected, the House banking committee has recommended a year's extension of the OPA and its price control authority. The committee has proposed some limitations on this authority but plainly they do not go far enough. If the OPA is to be kept alive for a year after the end of June then the terms of its continued operation ought to be clearly set forth. It cannot be left to a government agency to fix its own rules and enforce them arbitrarily.

The committee would restrict the OPA pricing policy by blocking the agency's attempt to force retailers to absorb the increased manufactured cost of such products as motor cars, radios and refrigerators. The OPA had allowed the manufacturers to edge up their prices but had ordered the retailers to hold their prices down to previous levels. The agency had attempted to work this squeeze play on large numbers of businesses. If the committee's bill should go through the practice would be stopped.

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From The Times-Register, Salem, Virginia, April 5 -

HELPFUL LEGISLATION PASSED BY GEN. ASSEMBLY FOR FARMERS , Far reaching and helpful legislation to the farmers of Virginia, passed by the General Assembly recently adjourned, dealt with everything from the minimum requirements for fertilizer to the indemnity paid on diseased cattle and included the setting up of a new commission to make Virginia and the nation more "apple conscious."

Representing a saving to both farmers and fertilizer manufacturers the new fertilizer law requires that with the exception of two popular tobacco brands, the minimum analysis for fertilizer will now be 18 instead of the former minimum of 14 under the old law. Under the requirements of this new law there is also set up a committee to designate the number of grades of fertilizer which will be offered annually, limiting the number of grades to not less than 15 nor more than 25.

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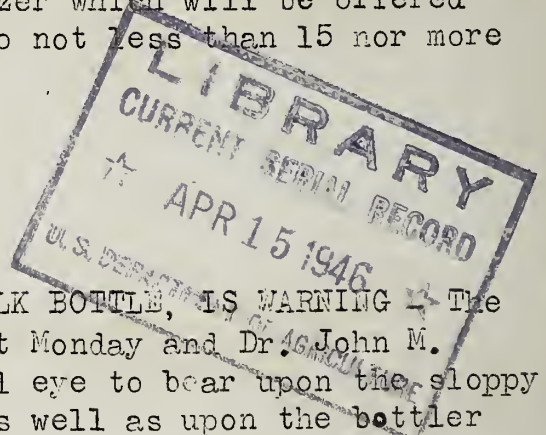
From The Times-Picayune, April 2 -

\$10-\$100 FINE FOR RETURNING DIRTY MILK BOTTLE, IS WARNING - The city's new milk ordinance went into effect Monday and Dr. John M. Whitney, health officer, brought a baleful eye to bear upon the sloppy housewife and the purveyor of goat milk as well as upon the bottler of cow's milk.

There is a \$10 to \$100 find lying in wait for the housewife who returns a dirty bottle to her milkman. In the past, milk bottles have been used around the house to store and transport nonmilk substances, such as kerosene, paint and cleaning fluid. Soakers used at bottling plants are often unable to remove traces of these liquids. From now on, the new law says, all bottles must be washed to "visual cleanliness," before they are placed on the gallery for the milkman to pick up.

The ordinance also makes it an offense for restaurants to serve milk other than in half-pint bottles. Fines here also range from \$10 to \$100.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 4094. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 12 -

WHEAT CRISIS SHOULD PASS IN 90 DAYS, TRUMAN REPORTS-Washington-President Truman told his press conference today that the world food situation was improving materially, due to better crop prospects at home and abroad, and that the big problem was to tide through the next ninety days.

He told of rains in India, in North Africa and in France which have brought prospects of the best grain crops in years in these areas. He mentioned yesterday Department of Agriculture crop report predicting a bumper United States winter wheat production if even average weather conditions prevail.

The Department of Agriculture further reported that in view of the good prospects just ahead, the wheat carry-over can be scaled down from 150,000,000 bushels, which has heretofore been considered the correct margin for safety, to as low as 96,000,000 bushels. This would free at least 50,000,000 bushels, if it can be picked up under the new certificate plan, for immediate shipment overseas.

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ANDERSON SAYS PEOPLE FAIL TO SAVE BREAD BUT CALLS WHEAT EXPORT PROSPECT BRIGHTER-Boston-American consumers have not done their part in the Government's effort to save bread to aid starving millions in Europe, Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, declared here today.

"If each of you had saved a slice of bread a meal we could have 20,000,000 bushels of grain and that would mean 20,000,000 lives," he told a Chamber of Commerce meeting. "But, in the weeks since we asked for it, there has been a very heavy consumption of bakery goods in this country."

The Secretary commended millers, bakers, brewers and distillers for their cooperation while accusing the consuming public for failing to save.

Expressing confidence that the country could meet its wheat export goals without rationing bread, Mr. Anderson said that while the United States fell behind in meeting its wheat export commitments in the first quarter of the year, "it looks now as if we can reach our goal of 225,000,000 bushels for the first six months of this year."

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HOUSE GROUP URGES MEAT SUBSIDY END; 6C A LB. RISE IS SEEN-Washington-The House Agriculture Committee unanimously approved today a proposal to end meat subsidies on July 1 and give meat producers a compensatory price increase which would raise consumer prices about 6 cents a pound.

It adopted a resolution authorizing its chairman, John W. Flannagan Jr., of Virginia, to offer the plan as an amendment to the bill to extend price control one year beyond its present expiration date of June 30. The extension bill is scheduled to reach the floor of the House next week.

Representative Flannagan told reporters that removal of the subsidies would save the Government about \$700,000,000 a year and would cost consumers about 6 cents more a pound for meat.

Representative Clifford R. Hope of Kansas, ranking Republican on the committee, said that "several members" favored the removal of all ceiling prices on meat but decided to go along on the subsidy removal proposal.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in - - - -
today's N.Y. Times)

From The New York Times, April 12 -

FUTURES ON COTTON OFF 20 TO 27 POINTS-Uncertainty over legislative developments in Congress and continued favorable weather in the South brought out yesterday heavier liquidation in the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange and final prices were 20 to 27 points net lower than on Wednesday.

MAY RYE DECLINES ON PROFIT TAKING-Chicago- May rye reacted 7 1/8 cents a bushel from the top price today on the Board of Trade, after being up 4 3/4 cents early to a new high record of \$2.47 5/8. Heavy profit-taking and pressure from houses with Eastern connections caused the recession. Early shorts were good buyers. In Minneapolis and Winnipeg, May rye was up 5 cents early, the limit for one day. But both reacted, the Canadian market losing 3 cents net and closing at the day's bottom.

Active deliveries of oats here were under pressure from the start and showed little disposition to rally, closing 7/8 to 1 1/8 cents net. No change was reported on wheat, corn, barley, May oats or the deferred deliveries of rye, all holding at ceiling prices.

BRITISH FAT RATION DECLARED AT LIMIT-London-Sir Ben Smith, Minister of Food rejected tonight the appeal of Secretary Anderson for further sacrifices of fats and oils by British.

"To me that is an impossibility," he said.

This development followed a statement by Clement R. Attlee, the Prime Minister, who reported to the House of Commons that Britain's offer to ration bread if "the supplying countries" were prepared to do the same.

"We are anxious to apply the same principles of common effort to meet the world's requirements of fats and oils," he said.

He warned, however, that on this subject all he could say was that Britain was doing everything in her power to increase supplies from all parts of the world.

In response to a question by Winston Churchill about the reply of the United States to Britain's offer of bread rationing, Mr. Attlee said that Washington was still considering the matter and he could not tell when the conversation would be finished.

PRICE CONTROLS LIFTED ON MANY FRESH BERRIES-Washington-The Office of Price Administration lifted price controls today from fresh strawberries, red and black raspberries, dewberries and blackberries "for an indefinite period."

CAN BUILD HOUSES AIDING FOOD OUTPUT-Washington-The Civilian Production Administration and the National Housing Agency ordered a sweeping liberalization of their system of priority controls over building materials today in a move designed to make possible the construction of housing considered necessary to the production of "essential foods or scarce products."

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 12 -

"BUY-SELL" SUBSIDY WEIGHTED FOR CORN, Washington - In order to discourage feeding and to induce a freer movement of corn the Administration is now considering a buy-sell program under which farmers would receive higher prices for corn while private purchasers would be protected against the increases by Government subsidies.

This development arose after high stabilization officials said they had been assured that the price of corn would not be increased to private purchasers even though the Government might pay farmers higher than prevailing ceiling prices for corn and resell it at a loss to the private trade.

The ultimate purpose of the program is to make more wheat available for export.

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FROZEN LINES TO ABSORB HALF U. S. FOOD BILL WITHIN DECADE - Within the next decade half of the nation's \$20,000,000,000 food bill may be spent for quick frozen products.

Already the frozen products industry has reached a point where now some 400 products--from amberjacks to zucchini--are being frozen by more than 500 packers.

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LUMBER LICENSE PERIOD REDUCED, Washington Export licenses for softwood lumber are now valid for only six months, it was announced today by the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce.

The validity period of such licenses formerly was a year. The move is designed to reduce shipments of unused balances on old licenses. Reduction in the term of the license period will have the effect of revoking some of the unused portions of the 1945 licenses, and will place exports on a more nearly current basis.

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FIELDMEN APPROVE FORM FOR LOOSE LEAF TOBACCO --Members of the Kentucky Fire Underwriters Association, meeting at Louisville, Monday, approved a new and amended form for use in writing leaf tobacco on loose leaf floors during the annual sales season, which normally opens about Dec. 5 and ends in February or early March....

Among changes will be a minimum of \$1 per thousand for coverage of tobacco between the time it is delivered on warehouse floor and the time it is turned over to the ultimate buyer, while charge will be advanced to 4 percent of the rate, instead of 2 percent, based on total sales. Insurance will become effective in the future as of Nov. 15. The new draft is being sent to Chicago for company decision.

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MARKETS - Millers await order curtailing flour deliveries; bakers opposed to cut and seeking higher prices to offset rising costs... Further rally in futures contracts affects spot egg demand....Poultry trading fairly brisk... Asparagus weaker....Domestic Swiss cheese especially tight....No change in butter situation....Canners trying to obtain heavy tomato tonnage....Coast reports raisin packers granted price increase on Thompsons....Hogs again fully cleared at ceilings.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce)

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 12 (Cont) -

LOWER COSTS, HIGHER PRODUCTION INDICATED ON NEW PRODUCTS, Atlantic City - New and improved techniques and processes developed in the laboratories of industry, Government, and universities that will lower costs, increase production and make better products were revealed to members of the American Chemical Society here today by high ranking chemists and chemical engineers.

The chemists heard for the first time of a quick infra-red technique for analyzing DDT which makes possible a better control of the quality of DDT insecticides. The method and its significance was discussed by W. V. Freed of the Du Pont Co., who with other Du Pont chemists, developed it.

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OTHER NEWS - Government action in meat situation indicated...Libby, McNeill & Libby plans test production and marketing of frozen foods from two plants.....R. S. Delapenha again heads Olive Oil Association of America, Inc.: reports continuing efforts to stimulate imports...Army QM officers study food ration, packaging policies at Washington conference....New York retail grocers urge support for repeal of Federal margarine taxes....

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 12 -

DISTILLERS GRAIN INVENTORIES LIMITED TO $7\frac{1}{2}$ DAY SUPPLY, Washington - Distillers' inventories of grain will be limited to a $7\frac{1}{2}$ -day supply, based on daily mashing capacity, the Department of Agriculture announced.

The amended order, effective April 15, also provides that any distiller whose inventory totals more than a $7\frac{1}{2}$ -days' supply shall use no grain or grain products in manufacture of beverage alcohol or distilled spirits.

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SUGAR SHORTAGE SEEN FOR NORTHEASTERN USERS REGARDLESS OF STRIKE - Sugar consumers in the Northeast face another temporary acute sugar shortage regardless of whether the threatened strike of refinery workers, called for this Saturday at midnight, is settled, it became more apparent yesterday.

The cane refineries are rapidly running out of raw sugar stocks as a result of the recent Government cancellation of many sugar cargoes destined for north Atlantic ports.

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VEGETABLE OILS USE, INVENTORIES RESTRICTED, Washington - Industrial users of vegetable oils were ordered to restrict monthly consumption to the January-September 1945, average and limit inventories to a 45-day supply.

The amendment to the vegetable oil order came from the Department of Agriculture as the first step in its stated intention of cutting U. S. consumption of fats and oils.

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From The Farmer, April 6 -

APPEARS FARMERS ARE BEING DULFED - Every time there was a pinch or an emergency throughout the war period -- and many such occasions involved food -- farmers were asked to extend themselves just a little bit further. They saw their sons and hired workers go to war and patriotically resigned themselves to making the best of it. They were unable to get machinery, the material for which was diverted to war machines, and they made the old machines do. Every member of the family from the little shavers up to people too old to work had to pitch in. And when the bond drives were on, farmers were appealed to on a patriotic basis to buy and buy and buy.

Throughout it all, there was a lot of brave talk in Washington and elsewhere of "taking care of the farmers after the war is over." The shooting part of the war is now over, but are the farmers being taken care of? No need to go into that here. Write your own ticket.

Another emergency -- that of feeding starving peoples of other lands -- has arisen. It is a genuine and pressing emergency, and once more farmers are being called upon to extend themselves. They will respond again. There will be no letup this year. There can be no letup this year. But isn't it about time that farmers are given a break and greater recognition be given to the importance of agriculture?

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From The Boston Herald, April 9 -

BLACK MARKET 'SUGAR' COSTS TRIO \$1400, Three Nashua, N. H., men who complained early last night to North End police that they had been mulcted of \$1400 by a persuasive stranger on a wholesale sugar purchase, later admitted, police said, that they intended to buy the sugar without benefit of OPA-prescribed coupons.

The black market deal started, they confided to officers of the North End station, yesterday when a stranger telephoned one of the trio in his Nashua home with an attractive offer for several thousand pounds of sugar for \$1400.

He hired a truckman and a helper, who drove to Boston and met the confidence man at 5 P. M. in an Atlantic avenue fish establishment. In a few minutes, the enterprising crook approached the truckman and asked for his money. The trusting truckman passed over the \$1400. The sugar never appeared.

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From Detroit Free Press, April 9 -

GRAIN SLASH CUTS WORK IN BREWERIES, Employment in Detroit breweries has fallen off sharply as a result of the Government's 30 per cent slash in beer quotas of grains for beer production.

A Free Press survey shows that since the Government order went into effect March 1, direct layoffs and reduced working hours in breweries combine to bring an employment cut that almost equals the 30 per cent production cut figure.

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, April 9 -

CCC TO BASE WHEAT BUYING AT TERMINALS, A further indication of official desperation is the plan to limit domestic flour use of 75 per cent of 1945, which will, in effect, make an unprecedented percentage of flour produced available for export, perhaps as high as 50 per cent, though this figure could not be officially confirmed.

The trade felt the CCC's plan to take off emergency wheat at terminal points is preferable to its early proposal to take title at country elevators. Such a procedure would have involved setting up of complicated machinery at country points and completely by-passed existing trade channels.

The earmarking of wheat and the proposed cut in domestic consumption of flour will not solve the problem of millers and feed manufacturers, the trade predicted. This problem consists mainly of getting physical possession of wheat sufficient for the needs, even though these are sharply curtailed by government decree.

Government officials frankly admitted that they cannot guarantee sufficient wheat to keep mills busy.

If farmers respond to the government's plea to sell wheat on a contract basis to the CCC, any excess that is not needed for export can be turned back at terminal points for domestic use, it was pointed out. But grain men feared that government controls are too late to save the rapidly diminishing grain supplies.

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From Atlanta Constitution April 8 -

RAPS DOINGS OF COTTON BLOC,, Washington -- The self-confessed "friends of the farmer," with the "gotter-do-something-bout-cotton" boys in the lead, are on the loose in Congress, and the result may be sad if this goes unchecked.

It is more than likely that speculators and big textile and food interests, rather than the farmer, will skim the cream off the inflationary spree now being encouraged, while the consumer will pay, as usual, in higher prices for what he eats and wears. Such inflation would hurt everybody.

Already widely publicized is the Pace-Russell amendment inserted by the Senate in the new minimum wage bill. It would count costs of farm labor, including that of the farmer and his family, in figuring parity price schedules.

If this amendment sticks in the House, which twice has passed the Pace Bill, that would kill off the minimum wage bill designed to help low-paid industrial and white-collar workers.

A closer examination may dispel lots of hokey.

The "small farmer" for whom the cotton Senators beat their breasts, is going to get little, if anything, out of this speculation. The cotton largely is out of his hands. If the boom goes unchecked and ends in a bust, as it well might if stable conditions are not maintained as proposed by OPA, he then is out of luck.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 15 -

SUGAR STRIKE IS OFF AT LARGEST PLANTS AS PAY RISE IS GIVEN-Washington-The contemplated strike which was to affect more than half the cane sugar production in this country was averted at a conference this afternoon in the office of Edgar L. Warren, chief of the United States Conciliation Service.

The representatives of the AFL and CIO unions reached an agreement on behalf of 4,400 employes of the National and American Sugar Refining Companies, providing for wage increases averaging 15 cents an hour, retroactive to Feb. 15 and in the case of National's Long Island City plant to Jan. 1. This included 5 cents previously granted.

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OPA EASES CATTLE CURBS-Washington-In an effort to curb the black market in cattle and meat, the Office of Price Administration has issued rules, effective tomorrow, which would liberalize restrictions on custom slaughtering.

Specific exceptions, favoring owners of prize-winning cattle and cattle dealers who suffered business reverses, are contained in the new rules. They effect a modification of an order of March 27, which had restricted slaughtering to cattle owners and slaughterers who conduct business together at the same plant under provisions of Control Order No. 1 before it was revoked on Dec. 29.-

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ASSAILS OPA MEAT PLAN-Chicago-The meat industry charged today that planned Office of Price Administration regulations designed to curb black markets and distribute meat more evenly were more likely to create further confusion and succeed only in keeping meat from the nation's tables.

One of the principal points in the proposed Federal program is restoration of a quota system for slaughtering similar to that used during the war.

The American Meat Institute called for complete abolition of OPA meat and livestock regulations of all kinds.

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HOOVER SIFTS DATA ON FOOD IN VIENNA-Vienna-Herbert Hoover arrived in Vienna today on his trip to survey world food conditions. He conferred during the afternoon with Gen. Mark W. Clark, United States commander in the area, and his aides on the situation in Austria.

Later Mr. Hoover studied data on world supplies in preparation for the general report on Europe which he will probably send to President Truman from Athens or Cairo.

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FOOD RELIEF PLAN MAY STRIKE SNAG-Chicago-The program of the Government to export 125,000,000 bushels of cash wheat during the last three months of the crop season ending June 30 is doomed to failure unless there is much more grain on farms or in elevators than revealed by the survey by the Dept. of Agriculture as of April 1.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

Farm Digest 755-46

From The New York Times, April 15 -

SHARP DROPS MARK TRADING IN COTTON-Futures prices on the New York Cotton Exchange last week registered declines that were the greatest for any weekly period since early in June, 1942. The market moved irregularly, turning sharply downward toward the close of the period. At the close of trading on Saturday, net declines for the week were 78 to 122 points. In the previous week the market had gained 66 to 100 points.

Liquidation early in the period, depressing prices up to about half a cent a pound, was attributed to selling in advance of increased margin requirements, effective April 9, and opposition of Administration officials to proposed amendments to the Price Control Extension Bill, as well as President Truman's threat to veto any price control bill that contains a revision of the parity formula.

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DANES CALL FOOD PARLEY-Copenhagen-The Danish Government has invited forty-four nations to take part in a world agricultural congress at Copenhagen in October. All the nations are affiliated with the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization and if the invitations are accepted, other nations, for instance Sweden, may be invited.

It is believed that Denmark may be the European headquarters for FAO's sub-organization. The Danish Government has offered the organization the use of the royal residence, the Bernstorff Castle.

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MEAT FOR HOLIDAYS IS SCARCE IN CITY-An acute shortage of fresh hams, a favorite Easter dish, and the virtual disappearance from retail markets of kosher beef will restrict the feasting of Christians and Jews on their first post-war springtime religious holidays, it developed over the week-end.

Unlike last year, however, the meat shortage is mitigated by an abundance of poultry for both Passover and Easter feasts. Poultry is available throughout the city at or below ceiling prices.

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25% NOT 35, URGED IN WHEAT SET ASIDE-Washington-F. H. La Guardia, Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, said today that he had urged a 25 per cent set-aside of American grain at the flour mills for foreign relief, and not 35 per cent as UNRRA stated yesterday.

The higher figure was a clerical error in the Washington office of UNRRA, he explained.

Mr. La Guardia cited the set aside idea in discussion of the possibility that Britain might divert wheat from its stockpiles to distressed countries with replacements coming from here later.

"If the order for 25 per cent isn't made effective soon, it will have to be 35 per cent before very long," he said tonight.

Meanwhile the Millers' National Federation of the United States telegraphed Government officials that it would cooperate fully in any workable program "that would get flour and wheat to starving millions of Europe and Asia while providing adequate supplies for America."

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 15 -

NATIONAL BISCUIT CO. - National Biscuit's indicated earnings of 54 cents a share for the first quarter of this year were the largest in many years. In the first quarter of 1945, the company earned 37 cents a share. The sharp improvement in the first quarter this year resulted entirely from the elimination of the excess profits tax. Consequently, if National is able to get materials--that's a big question mark right now--profits for the remaining quarters of 1946 should show comparable gains over last year. As with all bakers, N.B.C.'s principal concern at the moment is the threatened reduction in flour supplies. The only reason bakers have been able to do as well as they have, in the face of rising material and labor costs and frozen prices, is that they had sufficient sales volume to offset these factors. Now, however, if they have to cut their volume by 25%, the industry will face some pretty tough sledding. National would not be immediately seriously affected by such an order because it has fairly good inventories of flour or its equivalent. By drawing on these stocks it probably could maintain its volume close to present levels for two or three months.

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PHILADELPHIA DAIRY PRODUCTS - Philadelphia Dairy Co., Inc., made a good showing in 1945 from the standpoint of both sales and earnings. Net sales for the year amounted to \$28,319,829 compared with \$27,177,541 in 1944; and net income was \$716,410, equal to \$3.49 a share on 114,546 common shares; against \$664,219, or \$1.76 a share on 110,846 shares in 1944. Walter Justin, president, stated that the company is experiencing the greatest demand for ice cream in its history, but that production is hampered by sugar quotas and extreme shortages of dairy products. Potential ice cream sales far exceed last year's sales, he said;

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C.I.O. MEAT UNION ASKS U.S. ACT AGAINST WORKERS' LAYOFF BY PACKERS, Chicago - The CIO packinghouse workers union said yesterday delegates from midwest meat packing centers, including Omaha, Des Moines and Sioux City, Ia., will meet in Chicago tomorrow for a protest demonstration at the stockyards against the layoff of workers. A committee will then depart for Washington seeking interviews with Government officials to demand extension of controls and "full management" by the U. S. of the meat plants.

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MARCH CORN GRIND DOUBLES FEBRUARY'S - The corn grind of 11 refiners of starches, syrups, sugars and other derivatives of corn increased sharply in March. The total use, according to the Corn Industries Research Foundation, was 11,190,007 bushels compared with 5,600,000 bushels in February, the smallest total since 1940. The heavier corn grind last month was the result not of an increase in producer offerings of corn, but rather of the fact that the corn industry had made the bookings some time ago and took delivery. A year ago in March grind amounted to 11,415,478 bushels.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 15 -

FARM BLOC WILL PUSH PARITY RISE PROGRAM, Washington - Representative Pace (Dem., Ga.) announced today farm State legislators will intensify their fight in the next few weeks for a boost in farm parity prices.

The Georgian issued a statement asserting "the situation is more favorable now and our determination to secure enactment of this bill is greater than ever before."

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CORN 'CERTIFICATE' PLAN PUSHED NOW, Washington - Administration plans to get grain off the farms are now veering away from the buy-sell subsidy for corn which was proposed last week and are tending toward a "certificate" plan for corn, which would be similar to the "certificate" plan now in effect for wheat.

With the needs of the export wheat program becoming more critical each week, and procurement of the wheat becoming progressively more difficult some high officials are now beginning to express disgust with the Administration program, on the grounds that each plan that is announced merely attacks one slight segment of the whole problem.

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WHEAT LACK STILL CURBS FLOUR TRADE - Since the turn of the year problems of the industry have been steadily increasing as a result of the constant drop in wheat supplies which caused the Government to order 80 per cent extraction starting March 1 and now is expected to compel further restrictive measures.

Under these conditions few mills are willing to take on any new business and sales have been limited almost entirely to providing for immediate needs of regular buyers. Continuance of the recent downward trend in mill production, which appears probable, will increase difficulties of millers and bakers.

Fortunately, many bakers are holding close to the 30 days inventory permitted by WFO 144 and this will act as a cushion, at least for part of the emergency period, against any curtailment in receipts.

Bakers have been pressing for higher prices as an offset to rising costs and representatives of that industry will meet with Department of Agriculture officials early this week to protest the proposal to reduce flour deliveries to domestic users by 25 per cent. The fate of this plan appeared to be in the balance but there was no indication as to what substitute might be adopted if it is abandoned.

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LOW TEMPERATURES AFFECT QUALITY OF MAPLE SYRUP, Geneva, N. Y. - Warm weather during the run of maple sap last month lowered the quality of the 1946 maple syrup supply, food specialists of the State Agricultural Experiment Station reported. The scientists, said haziness and cloudiness of the sap is due to bacteria which increase rapidly with even a slight rise in temperature.

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From St. Paul Pioneer Press, April 10 -

PLAN MAPPED TO GET WHEAT TO MARKET - A farm-to-farm canvass that actually will touch 200,000 rural families in a "Get Your Wheat to Market" appeal was outlined and approved by Farmers Union leaders from four states Tuesday.

The group, meeting assumed the huge responsibility of making the wheat certificate purchase plan actually "work."

Details of the plan originally were proposed by E. W. Thatcher of St. Paul, general manager of the Farmers Union Grain Terminal association.

Thatcher, in opening the session, explained that government officials in desperation over the critical slump in grain receipts in the Northwest, are anxiously watching to see if the proposed plan will result in "the goods being delivered."

The state leaders said they will immediately call conferences of all county organization officers and that canvassing should begin early next week.

All farmers will be contacted, whether or not they belong to the Farmers Union, they said. The goal in the four Northwest states is delivery of 100 million bushels of wheat.

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From The Times-Picayune, April 10 -

BLACK MART SUGAR PLACED AT 100,000 SACKS WEEKLY - A "conservative guess" that 100,000 sacks of sugar are finding their way weekly into the state's black market was made Tuesday by J. J. Kramer, executive director of the Louisiana Restaurant Association.

The "prevailing price is \$25 a sack," he said, but there have been "some higher figures. I believe the black market runs over \$2,500,000 a week in Louisiana."

He blamed it all on the OPA here which he asserted is "making its own black market in sugar by refusing to grant the restaurants an additional allotment to cover their needs when there is plenty of sugar available."

Kramer said that the OPA didn't take into consideration the coffee drinking habit of New Orleans and Louisiana people, and that no extra sugar was granted for use in coffee in restaurants. He added that the sugar was allotted on basis of meals.

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From Milk Plant Monthly, April 1946 -

NEW PROCESS FOR MAKING ICE - A quicker and cheaper process for making ice for dairies, milk shippers and for other commercial purposes has been developed at the University of Texas by John R. Watt.

Watt foresees use of the new process by dairies, restaurants, hotels, soda fountains and other places that consume large quantities of ice. The new method produces ice about 100 times as fast as present commercial processes. The secret of the speed, he said, is that the ice, under his system, is frozen from the inside outward, a reversal of the standard ice plant practices.

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From The Democrat and Leader, Davenport, Iowa, April 10 -

HUMANITY VS. HUNGER, Editorial, As a plain humanitarian obligation, we are asked by President Truman to make food available to the starving thru moderation and perhaps a suggestion of sacrifice. As a practical contribution to the hungry in Europe and Asia, the American people are asked to cut their consumption of wheat by 25 per cent, also to reduce their use of fats and oils.

Compulsory rationing in peacetime is considered impracticable. Whatever contribution may be made to the relief of famine abroad must accordingly be on a voluntary basis. Such a sacrifice -- if sacrifice it can be called -- will accomplish a number of important purposes apart from that which it is designed primarily to serve.

It will be a practical step toward that moral leadership which, by reason of our freedom and power, we should properly exercise in a world which is badly adrift, and, in addition, it will be a tangible expression of that friendship which is the basis of understanding and unity.

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OUR DAILY BREAD, Editorial, In another two months the world will have a much better idea whether it will have very little bread or nearly enough. By that time fairly accurate estimates should be available on wheat production.

Wheat is harvested thruout most of the year in some sections of the world, but July and August are the critical harvesting months when the fate of about 75 per cent of the world's production is determined. Southern hemisphere crops were harvested in December and heavy-producing Argentina reports only about 25 million bushels for export to Europe against a normal 200 million to 250 million.

The reason: Acreage was reduced during war years to match lower export demand. North Africa will begin harvesting in another couple of weeks and Spain in May. Crop reports from that section are better. Early in June southern and central Europe will begin harvesting. Texas wheat begins to come in during June and reapers gradually work their way north, reaching Canada in August. But June should give a fairly accurate idea of how the world's bread basket will look next winter.

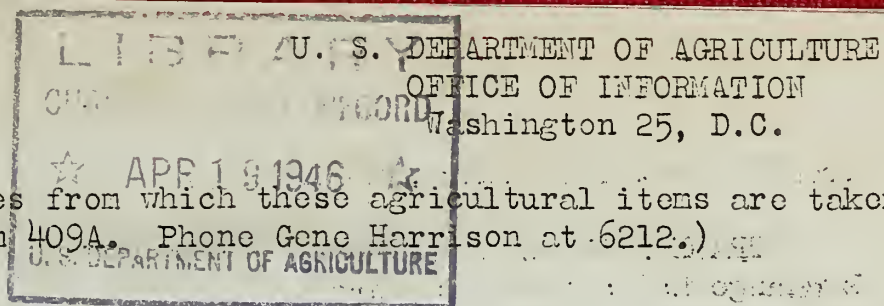
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From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 11 -

CHICAGO'S BEEF VANISHING WITH BUYING BY EAST, Unless action is taken soon to channel more cattle to Chicago packers, supplies of beef for consumers in this area may disappear, industry spokesmen said yesterday. Because of "unworkable" price regulations on live cattle and beef, Chicagoans get less than half their rightful share of the dwindling supplies, they said.

Beef tonnage for consumers has been falling almost steadily since the first meat rule was placed on wholesale beef in 1942, which even then gave New Yorkers and other eastern consuming centers a price advantage. All of the prime beef now goes east, either alive for slaughter there or after it is butchered here.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 16 -

RETURN WAR CURBS ON MEAT SUPPLIES AND DAIRY PRODUCTS-Washington-The Government today moved to meet the world famine situation by clamping wartime controls back on livestock slaughtering and dairy products, but again delayed issuing the proposed 25 percent reduction order on the consumption of wheat flour.

Simultaneously, Attorney General Clark ordered the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate reports that some packers are defrauding the Government by paying black market prices for cattle and then collecting Federal subsidies. The Office of Price Administration and the Department of Agriculture moved today against the black market in meat by a joint announcement that a livestock channeling program a reinstatement of Control Order No. 1, will soon be put in effect on commercial slaughter of cattle, calves and hogs.

THREE IN SUGAR FRAUD JAILED, FINED \$105,000-Newark-Prison sentences and fines totaling \$105,000 were imposed today by Federal Judge Thomas F. Meaney on three men charged with having defrauded the Federal Government of 25,000,000 pounds of sugar.

The defendants were Fresh Grown Preserves Corporation of Lyndhurst, N.H. and its president and vice president, Murray Greenberg of Brooklyn and Leo Greenberg of Passaic, N.J., and Robert Sealfon, who traded as Sero Syrup Company of Brooklyn.

PACKERS SCRAMBLE AT CHICAGO YARDS-Chicago-Frantic competition for supplies of top grades of cattle at the stockyards was resumed today. Local packers emerged with another small supply for this area and for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. New York packers, however, were far in the lead in the rush for stock, and with other outside meat interests, bought all of the prime steers and heifers. A few hundred steers at \$17 a hundred pounds or less went to the local packers.

LA GUARDIA IRKED ON FOOD-Washington-Fiorello H. La Guardia, Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, feeling "disappointed and greatly disturbed," said today that the American-British Combined Food Board had canceled a scheduled conference with him on the world food situation.

MARGARINE SUPPLY SEEN DECREASING-The present acute shortage of margarine will continue and may grow more pronounced later this year, a spokesman for the food industry predicted yesterday. Vegetable oils from which margarine is made are needed desperately all over the world, he said.

FOOD TRADE SPLIT BY 25% FLOUR CUT-The proposed plan to reduce flour shipments by 25 percent was given qualified endorsement by retail grocers yesterday. Opposition to the plan by bakers continues, however, pending formal assurance by the Office of Price Administration that in the event that it is adopted price adjustments will be granted to compensate for the resultant loss in volume. (Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 16 -

TRADE DEALS LEAD IN COTTON BUYING-Cotton futures on the New York Cotton Exchange had a steady undertone yesterday with prices 17 to 34 points net higher than Saturday's final levels.

Starting 2 to 29 points higher, the market rose to gains of 22 to 43 points at one time. Trade interests continued to absorb contracts in a session that at times was bare of contracts. Some support came from a prediction by farm-bloc leaders that the Pace parity measure has a good chance of passing Congress attached to the Minimum Wage Bill.

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STRONG UNDERTONE SHOWN IN MAY RYE-Chicago-May rye showed a strong undertone today on the Board of Trade and at no time were prices as low as Saturday's finish when the close was at the top and 5 cents a bushel up from Friday's finish. Although no new seasonal high price was established, May was $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents higher at one time but failed to hold the full advance due to profit-taking and the close was $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents higher. Minneapolis May gained $4\frac{3}{8}$ cents. Active deliveries of oats were unsettled, and finished unchanged to $\frac{1}{2}$ cent lower, the latter on July. Wheat, corn, barley, May oats and new crop deliveries of rye were unchanged at ceiling prices.

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INDIANS CHALLENGE TRUMAN ON FAMINE-New Delhi-Just where President Truman and Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson received the information that led to their statements that appeared to minimize India's food crisis is a source of wide conjecture in this capital today.

United States Commissioner George R. Merrell, whose office normally would handle agricultural reports to Washington said that the American Mission here had not forwarded estimates that could have furnished the basis of the Washington statements. And the Government of India states that no Indian official had given any such optimistic picture as the President and Secretary Anderson painted.

That would seem to leave two possibilities: British or unofficial American sources.

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BAVARIAN FARMERS HOLDING OUT-Munich-United States Military Government authorities said today that some Bavarian farmers were hoarding thousands of tons of food or funneling it into the black market while hungry city dwellers clamored for more imports from the United States.

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DANES OFFER OWN MEAT STOCKS-Copenhagen-The Danish Government said today that some of the meat being held in storage for summer consumption would be offered for export to France, the Netherlands and Belgium.

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ITALY BANS MAKING OF PASTRIES-Rome-The Commissariat for Food banned today the manufacture and sale of pastries. Police squads will enforce the ban.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 16 -

BREAD BAKERS have the Agriculture Department on the run. Such a storm has been blown up over the Government proposal to cut baking by at least 25% that the Department would like to back down. Despite Agriculture Secretary Anderson's saying yesterday he is "desirous" to see the plan go through, many feel he would gladly forget it if it were not for State Department pressure.

Agriculture Department grain experts think export wheat goals can be almost met without the mandatory cut. Privately they estimate the April 1 off-farm wheat stocks at 175 million bushels. (Official estimate is due April 25) Added to 203 million bushels on farms, this gives an April 1 total of 378 million bushels.

By shaving domestic flour use through Government purchase of wheat, and cutting the mid-year "carryover" to less than 100 million bushels, they think they can just about meet export promises.

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OPA TO RAISE PRICE OF CIGARETTES; DEALERS MUST ABSORB INCREASE, Washington - A cigarette price increase of 25 cents a thousand at the manufacturer and wholesaler level is scheduled for announcement early next week, Office of Price Administration officials indicated. Although the final decision has not been made, one agency spokesman said that the 25-cent-a-thousand rise, equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent a pack, is called for in present plans. Retailers will have to absorb the increase on single pack sales but will be allowed to pass the increase along to the consumer on multiple sales.

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PACKERS UNIMPRESSED BY QUOTA CONTROL, Chicago - The Government's "share-the-livestock" program won't help cure black markets, according to meat packers here.

"It doesn't mean a damn thing," one official said. While another said "It's unworkable."

"The only firms the new program will technically affect are the legitimate packers," a third executive said. "It will keep them from exceeding their 1944 kill. But they can't get anywhere near that much livestock anyhow. So it's not going to bring any more meat animals into the legitimate packhouses."

The only way to cure black markets and get meat back into normal channels, packers asserted, is to take off ceiling prices.

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DEALERS OPPOSE FLOUR CURB - The New York Association of Flour Distributors through its president Herbert H. Lang has sent telegrams to Senators from New York and New Jersey asking action to prevent issuance of the regulation proposed by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson cutting by 25% the amount of flour available to bakers.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 16 - (Cont) -

COMPETITIVE POSITION OF CIGARETTE POSITION OF CIGARETTE BRANDS UN-
CHANGED IN MONTH - The race for cigarette markets by leading manufacturers in
March didn't change the sales rankings of the different brands.

This is apparent from a nationwide spot check of major marketing
areas, which showed that the American Tobacco Co. produced about 30% of all
cigarettes smoked in the U. S. last month.

Positions, from a percentage standpoint, of the leading brands were
unchanged from February. Lucky Strike accounted for 25% of the total market,
Camel 24%, Chesterfield 21%, Philip Morris 10%, Old Gold 9% and all other
brands 11%. Other brands of American Tobacco, such as Pall Malls, raised the
company's indicated share of the market to 30%.

Although Lucky Strike maintained its place in the front of the field,
opinion was general among tobacco distributors that R. J. Reynolds could
narrow the margin of leadership appreciably were it not necessary to allocate
Camels.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 16 -

COTTON BLOC LEADS BITTER FIGHT ON OPA, Washington - The Office of
Price Administration spent an inauspicious day on Capitol Hill today.

Assailed on the floor of the Senate and the floor of the House, the
price agency received an unsympathetic welcome from the Senate Banking and
Currency Committee as hearings into the extension of price control laws opened,
and was also the subject of intensive discussion at a closed meeting held by
cotton State senators.

By far the greatest part of the criticism directed towards OPA came from
cotton bloc legislators, who are strongly supported by other farm State congress-
men, and who are now talking privately of 35c and 40c cotton.

Senator John H. Bankhead (Dem., Ala.) charged that OPA officials
are exceeding their statutory authority in the matter of pricing farm com-
modities.

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FARM LOAN BONDS OFFERED PUBLICLY - The twelve Federal Land Banks are
offering publicly today, through Charles R. Dunn, their fiscal agent,
\$217,000,000 consolidated Federal Farm Loan Bonds dated May 1, 1946, due May 1,
1952, and callable May 1, 1950. The bonds bear interest at $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent per
annum payable semi-annually, and are being offered at 100 per cent and accrued
interest. They are being distributed on a nationwide basis through a large
group of securities dealers...

Net proceeds from the sale....are to be used to retire approximately
\$170,000,000 of 3 per cent consolidated Federal Farm Loan bonds on May 1,
1946-1956; to retire approximately \$55,000,000 of the capital investment of the
United States in the Federal Land Banks.....

The consolidated bonds being offered are not Government obligations
and are not guaranteed by the Government, but are the joint and several obliga-
tions of the twelve Federal Land Banks. The banks are Federally chartered
institutions and operate under the supervision of the Farm Credit Administration..

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From New York Herald Tribune, April 14 -

CHICKENS ARE KILLED IN FEED SHORTAGE, Los Angeles, (UP) -- Thousands of chickens are being slaughtered and burned each week by southern California poultrymen because of a feed shortage and high feed prices, it was revealed today.

Hatcheries are drowning baby chicks because they can't afford to feed them.

Layers whose egg production is slackening and which would ordinarily be sold for meat are being decapitated and tossed into incinerators.

Farmers, hatcheries and farm bureau experts pinned the trouble on a government order cutting feed 20 per cent to send grain to Europe.

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From The New York Times, April 14 -

FAMINE IMMINENT, LA GUARDIA WARNS, The danger of famine has reached the point where the lives of hundreds of thousands of people will be sacrificed to starvation unless decisive steps are taken within the next few days, Fiorello H. La Guardia, director general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, said yesterday in an appeal to American for action.

New York's former Mayor, speaking of mounting hunger and dwindling food supplies, made it clear that he was prepared and eager to back a whole series of drastic steps to meet the emergency, including wheat rationing at the mills and reshuffling of the world's available stocks. And he took time out to deliver a few choice remarks toward those who stood in his way -- "belly Americans," he called them.

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From The Baltimore Sun, April 14 -

O'CONOR APPEALS FOR BIGGER CROPS, Governor O'Connor, as honorary chairman of the Food-for-Famine campaign, yesterday appealed to farmers of Maryland to increase this year's crop for use in 1947.

Action by the farmers of the State in intensifying crop and seed production would go far toward averting the danger of starvation of thousands of persons threatened by food scarcity in other lands, the Governor emphasized.

He suggested to Maryland farmers that they let all wheat ripen for harvest instead of plowing under grain acreage to permit planting of other crops. Not only would this save considerable labor and use of machinery, he added, but it would result in increased income for farmers inasmuch as prices of seed as high and may be higher and seed straw is selling at a record price.

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From The New York Times, April 14 -

AWAIT FOOD PARLEY OF UNITED NATIONS, Scheduled meetings of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, beginning the week of May 20 in Washington, D. C., have aroused considerable interest in food industry circles in view of reports that the organization will take over operations of the Combined Food Board, it was learned yesterday.

From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 11 --

PROTESTS USE OF PROTEIN MEAL IN TOBACCO RAISING, Madison, Wis., -- Director Milton H. Button of the Wisconsin state department of agriculture, today filed a protest with Agriculture Secretary Anderson against use of high protein meal for tobacco fertilizer. The federal government, Button said, has approved allocation of 40,000 tons of protein meal for use in the manufacture of tobacco fertilizer.

The Wisconsin agricultural leader pointed out "a shortage of protein for animal feed is a limiting factor in the production of milk, meat, and eggs."

"Can the American public," Button asked Anderson in a telegram, "be expected to give wholehearted support to the food saving program when protein which is a limiting factor in the production of basic foods, is allocated for use as a fertilizer for non-food products?"

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From The Milwaukee Journal, April 10 -

MEAT SHORTAGE WORSE, PACKERS HERE COMPLAIN, Milwaukee livestock men say that the meat situation is getting worse, especially in beef.

Most retail butchers do not know today what their tomorrow's supply will be, and the packers cannot see much chance of improvement for some months, especially if the federally inspected plants continue to be squeezed between price controls on what they can pay for live cattle and what they charge for dressed beef, and the growing blackmarket.

"The shortage of legal beef is getting much worse, so bad they will have to abolish controls, unless everybody in the meat business suddenly gets 'religion,'" said George Billings, in charge of the beef department of the Cudahy Packing Co.

There is beef, but not enough at the normal trade outlets where the housewife can purchase it. But go, see "Joe" and whisper, and generally there are steaks and roasts at a price.

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From The Salt Lake Tribune, April 7 -

CUBAN SUGAR PURCHASE CONFIRMED AS RAW DEAL, Clarence R. Bitting, president of United States Sugar Corp., confirms your correspondent's recent disclosure that the Washington purchase of Cuban raw sugar was a raw deal, and that the 3.675c per pound contract price is the equivalent of 5.625c per pound.

Mr. Bitting says the Cuban raw will come in duty-free -- about 3/4 of a cent; no freight or haulage charges -- another 3/4 of a cent; and balance is 1742-price favoritism on 1,200,000 tons of wheat flour and millions of pounds of oils, lard, rice, etc., that Cuba obtains.

While on sugar, there's small risk of another 1946 refined price boost or that rationing will end in 1946.

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From The Baltimore Sun, April 14 -

COTTON TRADE WITH JAPS, Washington, April 13 (AP) -- American cotton shippers may get the major share of Japanese purchases expected to total 1,000,000 bales a year under an agreement reportedly under consideration by the Allied Control Commission.

Farm Digest 775-46-6

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone: Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 17--

DAVIS SAYS CRISIS IN FOOD GETS PROGRESSIVELY WORSE—Washington—The world food situation is becoming progressively worse and the crisis will not end when the next crop comes in, Chester A. Davis, chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, asserted today, while Herbert H. Lehman accused this country of "faulty planning and unrealistic measures" in meeting the world food problem and called again for rationing.

As the former director of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration charged the Government with inaction in the face of a five-month "known threat of mass starvation to two-thirds of the world's people," the present UNRRA director, F. H. La Guardia, asserted:

"I stake my life that President Truman will not let anyone starve if it is within his power to save them."

Mr. Davis said at a press conference that a country-wide and world-wide program must be developed before this fall to meet next winter's food needs.

The committee, he said, agreed to get behind the strongest possible drive to get wheat off the farms by the certificate plan, but Mr. Davis added that the plan would have to work "extraordinarily well" in view of the faltering behind of the wheat export program in the first quarter of 1946.

He further said that the committee had approved the still-pending flour restriction order from the beginning, and now urged whatever percentage of the Agriculture Department thought would do the job.

Asked about a return to rationings, Mr. Davis said:

"This country may come to it, not as a device to make food available but as an equitable distribution in a shortage situation."

ANDERSON HITS WHEAT RATIONING—Washington—Secretary Anderson asserted tonight that announcement of a wheat rationing program now "would probably be the most severe blow that could be dealt to the cause of relief feeding around the world."

He said that it took months to put rationing machinery in motion and an announcement "might result in the hoarding of wheat rather than in the freeing of it."

RESUME RATIONING, CHURCHMEN URGE—Reestablishment of wartime food rationing, withholding of a percentage of the national wheat supply and one or more breadless days weekly were advocated yesterday by Bishop G. Bronley Oxnam of the New York Area of the Methodist Church and the Rev. Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, president and general secretary, respectively, of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

The two Protestant leaders made their suggestions in a letter to President Truman in which they said solution of the world food crisis could not be accomplished by voluntary efforts.

(Turn to page 2 for other items.
in today's N. Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 17 -

BRITISH CUT EXPORT OF SCARCE FOODS-London-A sharp curtailment of exports from Britain of food products containing grain or sugar was announced in the House of Commons today by Sir Ben Smith, Minister of Food, in a move designed to conserve supplies of scarce items for the home market.

TRADING IN COTTON MARKED BY APATHY-Holding within a rather narrow range, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange closed unchanged yesterday to 8 points lower. Opening unchanged to 8 points up, it drifted aimlessly after some overnight trade buying orders had spent their force.

MAY RYE REACHES NEW RECORD PRICE-Chicago-May rye reached the highest price on record today on the Board of Trade, selling at \$2.48 a bushel at one time, as a result of buying by commission houses with Eastern connections, but reacted 7/8 cent from the top and finished 2 7/8 cents higher for the day. Minneapolis May rye advanced 5 cents, the daily limit, and held the full upturn, and cash rye in the Northwestern market kept pace with the May future.

Active deliveries of oats were unchanged to 1/2 cent higher. Wheat, corn, barley, May oats and the new-crop deliveries were unchanged, holding at ceiling prices.

Black-market operations continued to draw much cash corn away from terminal markets.

GRAND JURY INQUIRY IN MEAT DIVERSION IS SOUGHT BY UNION-A federal grand jury investigation was requested yesterday into the source and disposition of large quantities of beef that allegedly have been coming into New York City wholesale houses while housewives and retailers who refused to pay black market prices were virtually unable to buy meat.

The request came from Meyer Stern, Eastern director of the United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO.

REPUBLICANS LEAD FIGHT ON SUBSIDIES-Washington-A drive sponsored by two Republicans to discontinue food subsidies, a step which Chester Bowles, Stabilization Director, promptly said would "blow up" the price control program, developed today in both branches of Congress.

Senator Taft of Ohio and Representative Wolcott of Michigan served notice independently that they would seek Congressional approval of an amendment to the price control extension bill requiring discontinuance of subsidies within a stipulated period.

HOOVER LANDS IN ATHENS-Athens-Herbert Hoover landed in Athens this afternoon. He will confer with Greek officials of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration tomorrow and fly to Cairo on Thursday. Mr. Hoover stopped at Belgrade. Mr. Hoover was told the country's whole eastern area faced certain starvation by the end of May if increased UNRRA supplies were not received.

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 17 -

U.S. WILL CHANNEL PURCHASES OF WHEAT FOR EXPORT NEEDS, Washington - Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson now plans to divert all Government purchased wheat into export channels rather than issue a flour limitation order, which has run into terrific opposition from the milling industry.

There will be less wheat for miller to buy, probably making it difficult for them to gather in as much as 75 per cent of the amount they purchased in 1945.

It was learned through a reliable Department of Agriculture source that the flour limitation order may never be issued. The spokesman said, however, that Secretary Anderson and other officials studying the problem have not determined the course they will follow during the next few months.

Secretary Anderson, UNRRA Chief LaGuardia and the Famine Emergency Committee conferred with President Truman this afternoon to stress the urgent need for more wheat abroad.

It was said during the course of this meeting that the voluntary method of reducing bread consumption in this country has failed. Other methods are now to be employed.

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APRIL 1 COTTON SURVEY SHOWS PLANTINGS OF 19,182,000 ACRES - Expensive labor and an insufficient supply of fertilizer in major cotton States, combined with excessive rains in the south-central belt, have reduced the forecast of acreage to be planted by cotton farmers next season by 500,000 acres, according to a survey of The Journal of Commerce correspondents. Other factors leading to the 3 per cent decline from the March 1 forecast were the poor germinating qualities of seed, the worn condition of implements, and the switching of farmers to crops which may be harvested by machinery.

Based on the average estimate of correspondents, the revised intentions of farmers indicate a total of 19,182,000 acres to be planted in cotton as of April 1. This is a reduction of 562,000 acres from The Journal of Commerce forecast of 19,744,000 acres on March 1, or approximately a 3 per cent decline. The April 1 estimate, however, represents an increase of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent above the actual plantings at the end of last season.

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OFFERINGS OF FLOUR STILL VERY SMALL - There was an almost entire absence of wheat flour offerings as mills generally marked time awaiting definite word from Washington regarding measures to be taken to conserve wheat supplies in order to fulfill export requirements.

Uncertainty still existed as to whether the Government will order the projected 25 percent reduction in flour deliveries to the domestic trade or seek some other means of acquiring wheat, but in view of the constantly shrinking wheat stocks it appeared inevitable that the supply of flour for domestic users will be smaller during the remainder of the crop year.

Many mills already have reduced operations and further cutbacks were held probable shortly if more wheat is not available. Fortunately, many bakers were reported to be holding the equivalent of about a one-month supply while others, less favorably situated, have been able to obtain enough from their regular sources to cover nearby needs.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

Farm Digest 795-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 17 (Cont.) -

RUSSIAN AGRICULTURE GETS 5-YEAR EXPANSION PLAN, London - The Moscow radio quoting an article by Minister of Agriculture L. A. Benediktov in Komsomolskaya Pravda, said today Russia intended to boost agricultural production under the new five-year plan 27 per cent above the 1940 level.

The broadcast said Benediktov placed special emphasis on the cultivation of fat-producing plants and the breeding of live stock.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 17 -

CIO WORKERS AT MORRELL PLANT PROTEST BEEF DEPARTMENT LAYOFFS, Ottumwa, Iowa - C.I.O. employees of John Morrell & Co., meat packing plant, walked out yesterday in what Ed. Filliman, United Packinghouse Workers' steward, said was a "one-day protest against layoffs in the beef department."

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SWIFT & CO. CHICAGO PLANT BOUGHT ONLY 185 HEAD OF CATTLE LAST WEEK; YEAR AGO 4,103, Washington - Representatives of the meat packing industry described the black market as a danger to the health as well as the pocketbook of the American public.

Testimony yesterday before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, on meat shortages and black market activities, brought out these points:

Last week was the darkest in the 65-year history of Swift and Co. so far as beef production was concerned, said P. C. Smith of Chicago, vice president. Swift bought for the Chicago plant only 185 head of cattle, compared with 4,103 during the like week last year, he said.

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GENERAL FOODS ASKS DISMISSAL OF SUIT CHARGING RYE CORNER, Washington - The General Foods Corp. and others charged by the Department of Agriculture with having cornered the rye market in May, 1944, filed motions for dismissal of the complaint.

The motions assert the Government failed to establish a cash of manipulation or corner of the Chicago, 1944, May rye futures or the actual rye market.

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GLENER HARVESTER CORP. - Inability to obtain certain parts has held up production lines of Glenner Harvester Corp., traded on the Curb. The company has a big inventory of fabricated items. Full production should be resumed by the latter part of this month. Glenner will be unable to make much of a dent in the demand for its products since the order file already is far above its capacity to produce. In the fiscal year ended September 30, 1945, the company sold slightly over 2,000 machines. This year that figure will be exceeded by a comfortable margin, George Reuland, vice president said, although it is doubtful whether machines can be delivered in time for this year's harvest. But orders are being accepted for delivery after July 1.

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From The Kansas City Star, April 14 -

SAYS FLOUR PLAN FAILS, A wave of hoarding of white flour has defeated the government wheat conservation plan embodied in the recent "dark bread" regulation, Jess B. Smith, president of the Associated Millers of Kansas wheat, said yesterday in a letter to Senator Clyde M. Reed of Kansas. He asked Reed's help in securing withdrawal of the regulation.

Smith said 6 million barrels of flour, the equivalent of 27 million bushels of wheat, had disappeared off retailers' shelves since issuance of the measure requiring all mills to make only 80 per cent extraction flour.

Hoarding of wheat by farmers expecting higher ceilings, huge exports to needy persons abroad and extensive use of wheat as livestock feed all have enforced curtailment of mill operations, the letter said.

With fifty more days in this crop year, six large Kansas City mills reported they had stocks for only ten to twenty days' operation, Smith said. A poll indicated 75 per cent of the industry's capacity will be shut down, with resulting unemployment, from April 20 to May 10.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 12 -

HUNGER, Editorial, There is more hunger in the world today than there was at any time during the war. In the next few months, before the new crops come in, there is certain to be a further deterioration. The blame for this disaster rests upon governments and not least of all upon our government.

America had enormous harvests in 1944 and 1945 -- a tribute to the skill and the patriotism of our farmers. Fertilizers were scarce. New farm machinery was almost unobtainable and even now repair parts are scarce. The young men were taken from the farms by the army and navy and high wages in the war industries attracted many of the older men. Nevertheless, the yields were greater than had ever been obtained before. We and our allies had reason to be grateful to the farmers of this country for their magnificent achievement.

Then the wiseacres in Washington went to work. They squandered the wheat which was needed to nourish men by setting prices which diverted tens of millions of bushels for use as animal feed. They were told there would be grave shortages of cereals and fats but paid no attention to the warning until the crisis was upon them.

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From The Kansas City Star, April 14 -

IN FEED PROTEST, A protest to Washington over the feed famine which is forcing liquidation of breeding herds and flocks throughout the Mid-West was drafted here yesterday at a meeting of the executive committee of the Mid-West Feed Manufacturers' association.

Stoppage of grain receipts, particularly corn, because of inequitable price ceilings was blamed by all seven members of the committee, whose association represents 127 major manufacturers in eight Mid-Western states.

The committee urged a 50-cents-a-bushel increase in the corn ceiling for the balance of the crop year.

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From Watertown, N. Y., Daily Times

RAILROAD RATE INCREASES, Editorial, Next come the railroads for freight rate increases. Following the most prosperous period in their history, the railroads after viewing their books for the first quarter are now seeking rises from 25 to 30 per cent. The Pennsylvania suggests this percentage almost simultaneously with the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

The success of the railroads in getting the abolition of preferential rates to the government freight or passenger transportation on land-grant railroads is going to their heads. Now they are seeking to end by legislation any possibility that they will be prosecuted as monopolies. Next to come is the request for higher rates.

Despite the steadily increasing freight volume of truckers, a trend that has been caused by the high rail rates, the railroads continue the same old game. Industries that depend upon rail transportation are left high and dry. If trucks or boats steal the market, they fight them through repressive legislation. The game is the same, and it should be stopped now.

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From Des Moines Register, April 10 -

IOWANS FACING LOSS OF WET CORN, Algona, Ia. -- A lot of high moisture corn in storage on northern Iowa farms has failed to dry out to any great extent and there is widespread loss of grain badly needed for human food and livestock feed.

To determine the present situation regarding wet corn, state and county officials of the agricultural adjustment administration Tuesday accompanied official testers into the field and made a resampling of cribbed corn tested only a month ago.

Cribs on 27 farms in widely separated areas in Kossuth county were sampled and tested and the results showed considerable spoilage.

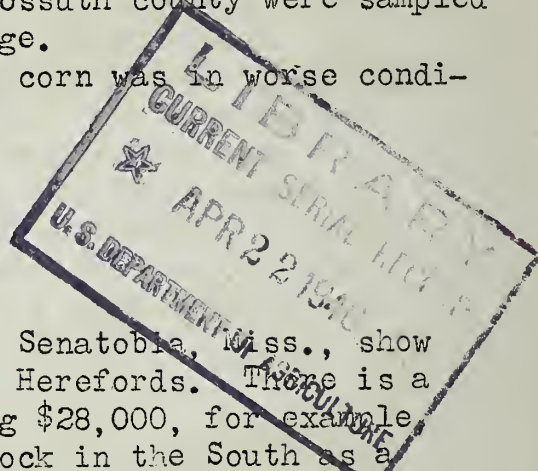
Much of the corn was deteriorating fast and most corn was in worse condition than 30 days ago.

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From The Commercial Appeal, April 10 -

PERFORMANCE AND PROMISE, Editorial, Reports from Senatobia, Miss., show records toppling right and left in the sale of Polled Herefords. There is a sense of some unreality about a single bull's bringing \$28,000, for example, at least for one able to recall the history of livestock in the South as a rule over a considerable period of years. It is interesting to learn that buyers from more than a score of states were on hand to engage in the spirited bidding. In brief, the fine success of the Hereford breeders in Panola and Tate Counties at this year's sale is at once a proof of their performance in the past and a promise of even wider and better development in the future. Aside from the values of what has been done, there is the inspiration to other areas in the South to follow their example. The potential worth of such a demonstration to the entire MidSouth can hardly be exaggerated.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 18 -

HOUSE VOTES OPA NINE MORE MONTHS; WOULD END FOOD SUBSIDIES IN 1946-Washington-The House amended the price control extension bill to such a degree today that Chester Bowles, Stabilization Director, called the action the first step of a "joy ride to disaster."

A coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats, joined at times by some Northern Democrats, wrote amendments into the bill to do the following things:

Guarantee cost plus a "reasonable profit" to producers, processors, distributors and retailers of each commodity handled.

Remove all food subsidies by the end of this year under rigid liquidation program requiring reductions of 25 per cent every forty-five days.

Cut the funds authorized for subsidies 65 percent.

Require the lifting of price ceilings from a commodity within ten days after certification by industry advisory committees or the Secretary of Agriculture that its production for a twelve-month period is equal to its production in the peak year, July 1, 1940 to June 30, 1941.

Eliminate meat subsidies by June 30 and permit price rises in compensation.

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BRITISH FOOD OFFER-Washington-The Combined Food Board wrestled for three hours with the world wheat crisis and came out tonight with a conditional British offer for a tripartite agreement under which the United Kingdom would contribute 200,000 tons more cereals to the general pool, 60,000 tons of it to go immediately to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. But the entire offer was "subject to receiving certain assurances from the United States and Canada regarding the future flow of grain."

Maurice I. Hutton, head of the British Food Mission and United Kingdom member of the board, refused to give details on the assurances asked.

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OPA GETS DATA FOR DRIVE ON BLACK MARKET IN MEAT-Events crowded one another yesterday in the Government's fight against the black market that has cornered most of this city's meat supply, and led to expressions of hope that the illegal practices that have made a meatless Easter a certainty for the average New York family might be curbed soon.

The district Office of Price Administration, acting quickly after the United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO, had requested a Federal grand jury investigation, made the first move of the day by inviting union leaders to OPA headquarters to produce evidence in support of their charges of conspiracy between major packers and independent slaughterers to channel the meat supply through the black market.

Within an hour a conference was held, at which, according to Callman Gottesman, local OPA enforcement chief, "names were named and specific evidence was discussed."

"There is no question in my mind that we can break this black market and break it soon," Mr. Gottesman said after the meeting.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, April 18 -

ARGENTINA SPURS WHEAT EXPORT; GIVES SUBSIDY TO END HOARDING-Buenos Aires-The Argentine Government, acting by decree, today assumed control of all wheat exports and took steps to get wheat from the farms, where it has been hoarded in the hope of higher world prices, to shipping points.

A subsidy of five pesos per 220 pounds was provided for the growers while a \$31,000,000 fund was created to assure the millers of cheap wheat for domestic consumption.

This was the most far-reaching move yet taken by one of the world's leading wheat producers to provide maximum aid for the hungry world. The subsidy is expected to encourage wheat planting, which had fallen off during the war, as well as to bring the stored wheat out from hiding.

The amount of wheat that millers can buy is limited by the decree to that purchased in the past year and it obliges them to purchase through the Farm Production Board and not through the free market.

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MAY RYE DECLINES AFTER EARLY RISE-Chicago-May rye turned reactionary today after an early upturn of 1 3/8 cents had carried the price to a new high record of \$2.48 3/4 a bushel. Reports that cash rye premiums at Minneapolis were down 2 to 5 cents, and that premiums here had dropped 3 cents led to increased pressure following the upturn, and at their low point prices were down 6 cents from the top. A partial recovery followed, but closing trades were at net losses of 2 3/4 cents for the day.

Active deliveries of oats lost 1/8 to 3/8 cent. No change was made in wheat, corn, barley, May oats or new crop deliveries of rye, prices holding at the ceiling.

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COTTON PRICES OFF BY 7 TO 16 POINTS-Fluctuating over a fairly wide range the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange lost 7 to 16 points yesterday.

Starting 2 off to 3 points up, the market broke in the afternoon to losses of 20 to 26 points when the House rejected an amendment to kill Office of Price Administration next June. New Orleans and commission houses were the principal sellers. Then the market rebounded on trade support, and there was some buying of cotton by locals on a vote by the House, subject to a roll call, to prohibit ceilings on commodities unless they reflect the cost of production, plus a reasonable profit.

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PORTER ATTACKS "PROFIT FORMULA"-Washington-Paul Porter, OPA administrator, took notice of the House's "profit-on-every-product" action in testimony before the Senate Banking Committee.

He said that "this proposal is one of the principal reasons why the continued success of price stabilization is in grave danger."

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CHARGE OPA FAVORS POULTRY INDUSTRY-Chicago-One reason for the meat shortage is that the country is trying to support, on limited feed supplies, one of the largest flocks of chickens and turkeys in history, livestock producers asserted today.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 18 -

FOOD SUMMARY ---

CORN PRICE CEILINGS should be raised, the U. S. Famine Emergency Committee said. That action, one of a number of steps urged to boost food exports to Europe, would discourage the feeding of corn to livestock, said Chester C. Davis, committee chairman. The group also recommended to President Truman that millers be required to set aside specific portions of their flour output for export, that makers of farm machinery be granted priorities, that the use of edible oils for soap-making be banned and that meat be trimmed closer to save fat.

A wheat usage order was ready for issuance by the Agriculture Department. President Truman said he has approved plans to cut millers' domestic sales by 25%.

New pleas for food conservation will be made by President Truman and Herbert Hoover in a worldwide broadcast tomorrow night. Mr. Hoover is now in Greece, continuing his survey of European food conditions. Announcement of the broadcast followed a news conference suggestion from Mr. Truman that Americans voluntarily limit their diets to European standards two days a week.

Europe's present diet is estimated at about one-third the American level.

Mr. Hoover appealed to the British government to divert to Greece 100,000 tons of food en route to the United Kingdom from Canada. He said Greece is in the most serious condition of any country he has visited.

BAKING COMPANIES have their backs to the wall as the flour squeeze tightens. Flour mills, uncertain of getting wheat, won't promise them a pound of flour in advance. Thus the bakers are kept on a day-to-day basis.

A leading national baker says one of its big flour suppliers in Kansas City recently has closed two of its mills--may have to close its third, and largest.

Even if the proposed 25% cut in flour use does not go through, say the bakers, some restriction on baking seems certain. It may be a cut in the size of loaves.

Cake making, the most profitable end of the baking business, will suffer most. Bread will get first call on scarce flour, shortening, other ingredients.

BORDEN SALES INCREASE 10% IN FIRST QUARTER; EARNINGS ALSO EXPAND, Flemington - The country is faced with a serious milk shortage, Theodore G. Montague, president of the Borden Co., told stockholders at the annual meeting here. If consumers purchasing power remains high, the problem will be one of obtaining sufficient milk to meet the presently unfulfilled needs of customers, he added.

Preliminary estimates indicate a 10% increase in first quarter sales. Earnings also increased because of reduced Federal taxes, Mr. Montague stated. He added that continued good earnings would be reflected in higher dividends.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Wall Street Journal.)

Farm Digest 805-46-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 18, (Cont) -

NATIONAL DISTILLERS PROFITS UP SHARPLY IN MARCH QUARTER - Earnings of National Distillers Products Corp. for the three months ended March 30 are estimated to have been around \$8 million. This would be equal to more than \$3 a share on the common stock now outstanding.

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RELIEF FOR EUROPE LAGS - Editorial - Yesterday's new reports contained half a dozen items bearing on the world food situation. Chester A. Davis, Chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, said that matters were becoming progressively worse and would still be critical after this season's harvest. Herbert H. Lehman, who has just relinquished the director-general ship of U. I. R. A., accused the government of neglect and repeated his demand for food rationing here. Secretary of Agriculture Anderson asserted that a decision to restore rationing would cause hoarding and so curtail relief for Europe. The British government decided to check food exports to protect the home diet, though Mr. Hoover the other day urged Britain to release more food to the Continent.

One more item: The weekly crop weather and soil condition report of the Department of Agriculture described prospects for winter and spring wheat in the United States as generally good and in many places excellent; it added that corn planting was well advanced according to regional timetables and promising about as well as possible so early in the corn season.

All of which leads to the conclusion that whatever part our government is to play in relieving famine conditions had better consist of two, and only two policies: 1. All possible assistance to the farmers in achieving maximum production, this year and next; 2. Pointed discouragement of farmers' expectations of a great increase in grain prices over present levels.

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UNSATISFACTORY EARNINGS FOR AMERICAN SUGAR CHARGED TO SHORTAGES, Flemington, N. J. - Earnings of the American Sugar Refining Co. for the first quarter of the current year have been unsatisfactory because the shortage of raw sugar reduced operations, and also because of making provisions for retroactive application of recent wage increases, J. F. Abbott, president, stated at the annual meeting.

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CANADIAN WHEAT STOCKS, Ottawa - Total stocks of Canadian wheat in North America March 31 this year were 213.4 million bushels, compared with 504.2 million bushels a year previous, a drop of 290.8 million bushels, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Of the total, 2.5 million bushels were held in the U. S., compared with 24.1 million last year.

It is estimated that 39.2 million bushels of wheat will have been fed by the end of the current crop year, against 4919 million for last season.

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From The Amarillo Globe, Amarillo, Texas, April 10 -

BEEF FAMINE STRIKES AT VETERANS' HOSPITAL, Deep in the heart of the cattle country, supply officers at the Veterans' hospital here have been forced to slaughter beef bought on the open market to obtain the necessary diet needed desperately for some patients.

The emergency action was taken yesterday to obtain food for men who fought for all the freedoms.

Two live steers were purchased, and the animals are to be butchered at the hospital.

Authority for the emergency action was granted by the supply and construction division of the Veterans Administration offices in Dallas.

Officials not only at the Veterans Hospital but also at civilian hospitals say the difficulty in obtaining meat probably lies in OPA ceiling maladjustments.

Cal. Leroy Cochran, manager of the facility, said, "We have been experiencing difficulty in obtaining bids on beef for the hospital."

Dietitians at Northwest Texas Hospital and St. Anthony's Hospital today expressed anxiety over the meat supply situation.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, April 12 -

THE MEAT CRISIS AND OPA, Editorial, The meat situation in Milwaukee and thousands of other communities in the country has become desperate. Shops selling meats exclusively are closing one or more days a week. Shops selling meats along with groceries are closing their meat departments partly or entirely. In hundreds of homes meatless meals are being served because the housewife has been unable, even after hours of search, to find any meat.

The simple fact is that OPA control of meat prices and meat distribution has collapsed. Why it has collapsed is not the important point at the moment. Right now the only really important question is whether the OPA can recapture its lost ground and bring order into the chaos it has permitted to develop.

OPA must either develop an adequate program and throw every possible agent into enforcing that policy or the whole meat business will go from legitimate into illegitimate hands. In fact, there are indications that, if meat is not brought under control, the whole price control mechanism may fall.

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From New York Herald Tribune, April 17 -

WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? Editorial, Shortages of meat and butter on the home front have brought intimations of action from United States food authorities. War-time controls on livestock slaughtering and on dairy products have been reinvoked. The former would insure legitimate slaughterers a quota comparable to that in 1944. Prohibition on the sale of whipping cream and a restored limitation on the amount of butter fat in ice cream are measures to ease the domestic butter shortage. A drive on black marketeers and controls on independent slaughterers are promised. Action to "share the livestock" is taken, one is gratified to note, with the world famine in mind. "The need to get the necessary amount of meat to meet our goals for shipment to famine-stricken areas is an additional compelling reason to get meat moving normally," Secretary Anderson says.

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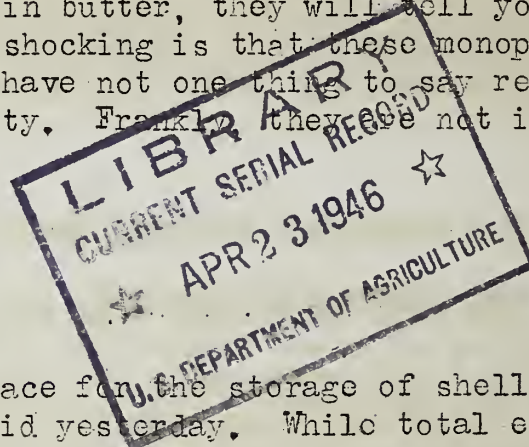
From Washtenaw Post-Tribune, Ann Arbor, Michigan, April 12 -

"PROFITS OR BUTTER", Editorial, Consumers are told from time to time that the reason goods are so slow coming in is that the workers went on strike. Don't forget, you are told countless times, you had a strike in the electric supply company, or in the automobile company, or in steel.

Yes, but consider the goods that are not coming in because the producers are sulking. They want inflationary conditions. They plan to wait out consumer patience and retailers' capital, until price ceilings are removed.

Consider butter. This is a basic food product. It is the source of vitamins essential to growth and to prevention of disease. The producers of butter are in the nature of a utility. But butter is practically off the market. Has been for some time. The big milk and creamery monopolies have it practically their own way. They have decided that their profits are more vital than the health of our people.

Of course OPA is to blame if you listen to producer propaganda. It is more profitable to sell cream in other ways than in butter, they will tell you. So no butter is produced. What seems to us so shocking is that these monopolist producers have become so arrogant that they have not one thing to say regarding their responsibility to the national community. Frankly they are not interested. They are interested in profits.



From The Kansas City Star, April 14 -

NEED MORE EGG SPACE, The shortage of space for the storage of shell eggs at Kansas City is generally acute, it was said yesterday. While total egg holdings here are not at record levels, many houses have, or nearly have, reached their capacity for eggs. And, it is presumed, production will continue liberal for some time.

Members of trade pointed out that this might have a temporarily bearish influence on the spot market here, since some supplies might have difficulty finding an outlet.

Of three leading storage houses in Kansas City, two said that at present their doors were practically closed to shell eggs, with acceptances limited to those previously contracted. So keen is the demand for space, a representative of one house said his company was adding two new cooler rooms. The other house reported that its holdings of eggs, as well as other commodities, were about normal.

Although increased production and an early season account in part for the influx of eggs, the trade felt that in large measure the space shortage is the result of a heavy movement of other commodities to storage. The largest of the three companies stated that the season run of meat to storage so far had been near expectations. However, their biggest problem stemmed from an unexpected amount of products from the army this spring.

From The Boston Herald, April 12 -

WORK CAMP TO TRAIN BOYS, GIRLS TO UNDERSTANDING OF FARMING, An agricultural work camp to give 75 boys and girls an understanding of farm life will be conducted this summer by the Unitarian Service Committee at Brooks, Me., Miss Katherine Potter of Orono, Me., formerly assistant state farm labor supervisor with the Maine Women's Land Army, reported yesterday.

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D14 (The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 19 -

TRUMAN SAYS FOOD CRISIS IS 'WORSE THAN IS PAINTED'-Washington-President Truman told 300 members of the American Society of Newspaper Editors today that the world food crisis was "worse than it has been painted." He said he wished they could go to the starvation areas of Europe and Asia to see just what conditions prevailed.

Earlier, the President had cabled to Herbert Hoover a suggestion that he return at once from Cairo so as to bring "forcibly and dramatically to public attention the facts about conditions in Europe."

More than half the questions asked of Mr. Truman by the editors were about the famine. And concerning Mr. Hoover's famine-survey trip, it was reported that the President had done a fine job.

After the interruption of inspection to put full speed on the famine-fighting campaign here at home, the Truman telegram indicated, Mr. Hoover would go to India, China and Japan. A large meeting in New York was one of the suggestions made to Mr. Hoover by Mr. Truman, as part of the national campaign to inspire all possible effort by the American people in the remaining seventy-five day period before the new crop of grain comes in.

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OPA IN DRIVE HERE TO FORCE MEAT OUT OF BLACK MARKET-The entire meat enforcement staff of the district Office of Price Administration, relieved temporarily of all other work, fanned out yesterday through the city's wholesale market areas and spread consternation and confusion among black marketers in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and the Bronx and Queens.

The all-out inspection tours uncovered "plenty of meat" in all the principal wholesale districts, according to Callman Gottesman, local enforcement chief, and yielded the OPA a wealth of information based on the examination of invoices manifests and slaughterers' markings on the meat itself.

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HOUSE APPROVES OPA BILL, 355 TO 42, AS PROTESTS MOUNT-Washington-The House formally passed the much amended bill to extend price control today, 355 to 42, while protests increased over its action yesterday in rewriting the measure.

Paul A. Porter, Price Administrator, asserted that two of the amendments would make price control "impossible" and four or five of the others would add "billions" to the cost of living.

Chester Bowles, Stabilization Director, who conferred with President Truman also called the House bill "impossible." When Charles G. Ross, White House secretary, was asked whether Mr. Truman had any comment on the House's action, he replied:

"Not for print."

Questioned on whether the President was going to do anything about it, Mr. Ross said:

"He hopes for much better results in the Senate."

Philip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, meanwhile sent telegrams to all affiliated unions "urging drastic action" to undo what he said was the damage done by the House.

(Turn to page 2 for other items - - - -
in today's N.Y. Times.)

Farm Digest 815-46

From The New York Times, April 19 -

CUTS WHEAT FROM MENU-Cooperating with the Government policy of saving wheat for the countries of Europe, the Women's Action Committee for Lasting Peace announced yesterday that wheat and wheat derivatives would be eliminated from the menus planned for its third annual convention in Louisville, Ky, on Wednesday and Thursday.

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BEEF PRICE RAISED IN HAVANA-Havana-The retail price of beef has been increased two cents a pound by a resolution of the Cabinet, beef being among the articles controlled by the Government. Havana has been practically devoid of beef since packing plant workers struck early last week.

The butchers also protested that their margin was too small to earn a living and pay the wage rise being demanded by their employees.

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COTTON PRICES UP 38 TO 50 POINTS-Spurred by the House action in curbing OPA's pricing authority, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange turned strong yesterday and closed near the best levels of the day with net gains of 38 to 50 points.

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MAY RYE MARKS UP AN HISTORIC HIGH-Chicago-May rye fluctuated nervously today on the Board of Trade within a range of $3 \frac{7}{8}$ cents a bushel. It broke sharply shortly before the market closed, rallied in the last few minutes of trading and finished at the top with a gain of 4 cents. With expectations that the Senate would put further restrictions on Office of Price Administration price controls, shorts covered freely. Last sales today were at the highest price at which the market has closed in the history of the organized grain trade.

Active deliveries of oats gained $\frac{3}{4}$ cent to $1 \frac{1}{8}$ cents in sympathy with rye and a recommendation of the Emergency Famine Committee to the President that farmers be paid higher prices for wheat and corn in order to stimulate the movement from the country into commercial channels.

Wheat, corn, barley, May oats and the new crop deliveries of rye finished unchanged at ceiling prices.

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NEW PLEA IS MADE FOR GRAIN FOR INDIA-Of the 1,400,000 tons of grain provisionally allocated to India to relieve famine for the first half of 1946 by the Combined Food Board, "not even a single grain" has been shipped from the United States, Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, agent-general for India in this country, declared yesterday.

Sir Girja, India's representative on the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, told members of the Advertising Women of New York, that 122,000,000 persons in the south and west of his country are in danger of starvation.

In view of the crop failure of December, 1945, and the recent drought, India asked the Combined Food Board last month for 2,200,000 tons of grain to be delivered before the end of June.

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From The Wall Street Journal, April 19, 1946 -

ANDERSON WIELDS VERY LITTLE INFLUENCE OVER OFFICIAL FOOD POLICIES.-- The Agriculture Secretary was reversed by Truman on the bread cut. He opposed the 25% reduction in flour but the President endorsed it anyway.

Stabilizer Bowles ignored Anderson on the new butterfat controls. Bowles restricted butterfat use in ice cream without consulting the Agriculture head.

Anderson fought the increase in the butter subsidy and higher cotton margin requirements but had to knuckle under to Bowles in both cases.

The Secretary won't resign, his friends say, but they fear his political ambitions have been chilled.

Small bakers will fight for Government control over flour distribution when the 25% reduction is ordered. They hold this is necessary to prevent a squeeze by big companies.

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EGG TRADING SETS RECORD - Chicago - In an all time record turnover exceeding 19 million dozen, shell egg futures soared to new season's highs on gains of 65 to 70 points on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange yesterday. Active demand led by LaSalle Street interests apparently influenced by the House passage of the amended OPA bill and the critical meat shortage extended the week-long upturn to 325 points, and led to the fifth consecutive higher finish.

Closing prices were 5 points under the day's best with the October at 44.35¢, up 60 points, and the November 44.70¢, up 65 points.

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BLACK MARKET COMPETITION CUTS VOLUME OF MAJOR MEAT PACKERS, BUT EARNINGS ARE AHEAD OF YEAR AGO - Chicago - Black markets are not having nearly as much effect on earnings of the meat packing industry as they are on the supply of beefsteak and hamburger in big cities.

Despite the fact that black market operators are paying fancy prices and making it impossible for legitimate packers to obtain more than a trickle of cattle, earnings of the large meat companies, in most cases, have thus far in the current fiscal year been larger than in the like period a year ago. These are the main reasons for this situation:

1. Earnings of the big packers are being aided by the elimination of excess profits taxes. Gross profits aren't making nearly such a favorable comparison with a year ago as net after taxes.

2. Hog marketings are running well above a year ago, and a relatively small proportion (as compared to cattle) are being diverted to black market slaughterers.

3. Results from packing operations in South America (Wilson and Armour have subsidiaries there) are showing improvement over a year ago when volume was hard hit by droughts that cut livestock production.

4. Non-meat operations of the big packers are showing well. This includes such products as dairy items, poultry, eggs, soap, and sporting goods.

5. Earnings of the industry in the early part of last year were relatively poor, largely because of a tight squeeze on margins that resulted from price ceilings.

From The New York Journal of Commerce, April 19 -

NATIONAL DAIRY NET GAINS IN QUARTER - Net income of National Dairy Products Corp. for the first quarter of 1946 is "ahead of last year," L. A. Van Bomel, president, told stockholders yesterday at the annual meeting. Commenting on the dividend of \$1.40 paid in 1945, compared with \$1.10 in the preceding year, he said that it is the company's policy "to continue to pay dividends commensurate with earnings and financial requirements."

Sales for the first three months were \$7,000,000 greater than in the same period of 1945, Mr. Van Bomel said, with the entire increase being in sales to civilians. Profits before taxes were materially reduced from the comparable period in 1945, he disclosed, because prices did not keep pace with increasing costs of labor and materials, but the reduction in tax rates benefited net earnings.

Pent-up demand for dairy products is at the highest point in history, Mr. Van Bomel stated. He warned, however, that production is declining, adding that the cause is the present low level of dairy price ceilings.

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ARGENTINE SUBSIDIES TO SPEED RELIEF WHEAT - Implementing assurances that more grain would be made available for European relief, the Argentine Government will pay farmers a bonus of five pesos per quintal of 220.46 pounds, equal to 40-1/2¢ a bushel, for the next thirty days on all wheat delivered in bags to ports.

In addition, a fund of 125,000,000 pesos (\$31,000,000) has been established to subsidize flour at a fixed price.

While designated primarily as a marketing incentive it was expected that the bonus plan will also encourage farmers to put in a larger acreage to wheat in the belief that a higher price ultimately will be granted.

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USDA SEEN ASKING LOWER HOG GOALS - Washington - Because of the acute shortage of food and livestock feed grains here and abroad, the Government is expected soon to request farmers to cut hog production by at least 5 percent below last year's level.

The reduction, if carried out, would be reflected in still smaller supplies of pork during the spring and summer of 1947. The Department of Agriculture has said that civilian supplies of meat during the next several months will be at wartime ration levels.

Plans for curtailment in pork production were being made as the Department issued a report stating that the current feed grain shortage is more acute in many areas of the country than in any year since the serious droughts of 1934 and 1936.

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ANDERSON TO INVESTIGATE CHARGES AGAINST PACKERS - Washington - Secretary of Agriculture Anderson told a delegation of CIO Packinghouse Workers today that he will investigate their contentions that big meat packers are not doing their utmost to obtain livestock in competition with black market slaughterers.

The delegation, here from Chicago and other meat centers, charged that the packers are on a production "sit-down strike" designed to discredit the Office of Price Administration.

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From The New York Times, April 18 -

FOOD FOR THE STARVING, Editorial, One of the most tragic aspects of the present world food situation, with its prospect of mass starvation, is that there was such a long delay in publicly recognizing the problem and then in taking adequate steps to meet it. The statement of Chester A. Davis, chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, that the problem is now recognized as a twofold one -- the immediate crisis and the longer-range prospect -- is an encouraging sign that official Washington is awakening to its great responsibilities. What is needed is an exhaustive survey of world crop prospects and then the formation of plans to meet any contingency. If there is bad weather in India or North Africa or China, or any other food producing area, the machinery should be set up in readiness to begin such activities as are needed to meet the impending deficit. If crops are good in one area and poor in another, then a plan should be drawn to move food from the "have" country to the have-not area. If there is no famine in prospect anywhere, then the plans all can be left in their pigeonholes.

A good example of the wishful thinking in which Washington appears to have been indulging was the statement recently made by the Secretary of Agriculture that the crop, situation in India has improved so greatly that the situation there is not nearly so bad as in the famine year of 1943 -- which is a poor yardstick to use, anyway. The implications were even worse than what actually was said. The remark left the impression that there is nothing to worry about in India. This is emphatically denied by the Government of India.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 17 -

UNRRA GRAFT, Editorial, A Tribune reporter sought to discover the truth of charges against the United Nations relief and rehabilitation depot at Le Bourget on the outskirts of Paris. He was denied admission by UNRRA officials. At the office of Felix Dospil, British director of the division of procurement and distribution, the reporter was told "they are Mr. Dospil's depots." He objected that they belonged to the American people who have a right to know what is being done with their money. UNRRA agreed, but still refused an inspection tour.

The Paris UNRRA depots have become an open scandal to GI's. It has been charged that inefficient organization and incompetent British officials have wasted millions of dollars in American equipment and supplies. Box cars have been looted. Urgently needed stock has disappeared, to show up on the black market.

UNRRA has no one to supervise or inventory the stock. German prisoners of war run the depots. Train loads of supplies have disappeared while en route to other countries.

We have stripped the country of meat to satisfy UNRRA demands. Wheat is the next to go. Administration officials have said that, given a choice between domestic and European users, the European commitments will be filled. American people want to aid the starving people of Europe. They do not want to supply the European black market. They do not want to enrich the European racketeer.

Refusal to allow the depot inspection admits but one conclusion. An inspection trip would have proved innocence if there was innocence to prove. Only the guilty are forced to hide.

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From Watertown Daily Times, Watertown, N. Y., April 16 -

WORSE SHORTAGE OF GRAINS SEEN, Ithaca, (INS) -- A Cornell university survey indicated today that farmers of the northeast will have to contend with an even worse shortage of food grains during the coming months.

A report by Dr. L. C. Cunningham, farm management extension professor, blamed rapid consumption of feed grains in the areas where they are produced.

Dr. Cunningham said disappearance of wheat and corn from United States farms during the first three months of this year increased 8 per cent compared with the same period in 1945 while disappearance of oats increased 29 per cent.

Overall disappearance of feeds compared to a year ago increased 14 per cent in the October-December quarter of 1945 and 11 per cent in January-March quarter of 1946, the report stated, concluding: "consequently the remaining supplies left until new crops are 14 per cent smaller than last year."

As of April 1, the reported said, "farm grain stocks reports showed about 35,000,000 bushels less corn, 15,000,000 bushels less barley, but 150,000,000 bushels more oats than a year ago."

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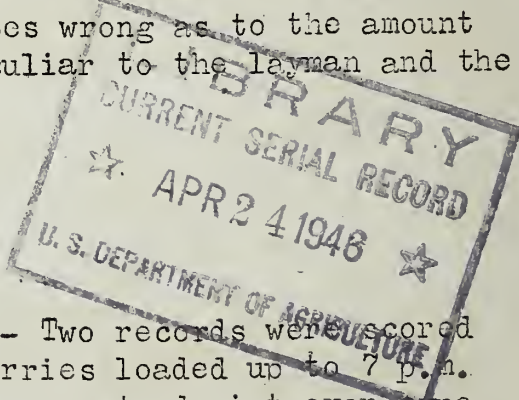
From The Kansas City Times, April 15 -

WHO'S GOT THE WHEAT? Editorial, The announcement from the federal bureau of agricultural economics and the Kansas board of agriculture that the farmers of Kansas had on hand only 25 million bushels of wheat of the 1945 crop is interesting in the light of the appeals for wheat. The situation is most unusual. Recently only thirty to forty cars of wheat were coming into the Kansas City market daily. The receipts now are larger, but the millers are begging for wheat. The UNRRA is begging for wheat and the government has been unable to fulfill its obligations for the movement of grain to the starving people of Europe.

What has happened to the wheat? For a month or more the government officials and the grain trade have been blaming the farmers for hoarding their wheat for higher prices. The government proposed to buy wheat on the certificate plan, whereby it would pay at a future date whatever the price was at that time, rather than on the date of delivery of the wheat.

That didn't bring out any wheat. The stocks on the farms are the lowest since 1939. The stocks of oats, corn and barley are less than half the normal farm holdings at this time of the year.

So, who's got that wheat? Or was the wheat in the bins and elevators in the first place? In other words, were the estimates wrong as to the amount of wheat surplus the country had? It is a bit peculiar to the layman and the final explanation ought to be interesting.



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From The Times-Picayune, April 16 -

BERRY INDUSTRY SCORES RECORDS, Hammond, La., - Two records were scored today, the first being the more than 80 cars of berries loaded up to 7 p.m. and the second the largest daily income from a revenue standpoint ever experienced in the history of the berry industry.

It was estimated by John B. Simpson of the Fannaly Distributing Agency that today's production would cause the exchange of over \$400,000 in cash. A car of berries today brings about three times as much revenue as a car did before the war, even when 100 and 150 cars were moving daily.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 22 -

FLOUR-CUT ORDER EFFECTIVE TODAY; BREAD IS PLENTIFUL - The Government order cutting domestic use of wheat flour by one-fourth, effective last midnight, had little or no immediate effect on activities in the bakeries and was not expected to deprive a single New Yorker of his bread or rolls today.

In small neighborhood shops the sweet-smelling pans moved in and out of the ovens at the usual rate, and the trucks of the big baking companies rolled through the night with their usual loads.

The city's bakers, big and small, were united with their kind throughout the country in an announced determination to make less wheat go farther at home in order to make more available for the starving millions abroad, but all had enough flour on hand to maintain normal business practices until it should become clear how best to make up the 25 percent cut.

Whether this is to be by baking only three loaves where four had been produced previously or by making the loaves as numerous and smaller had not been decided over the week-end.

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FTC WOULD KEEP WAR BREAD CURBS - Washington - The Federal Trade Commission charged today that bread was being wasted through a practice of the baking industry to permit the return of "unsold" loaves. It urged that in the present world food crisis wartime regulations intended to prevent such waste be continued and strengthened.

In a report to the President which the White House this afternoon released for publication, the commission said the situation, involving humanitarian, as well as trade, considerations, called for complete cooperation from the bakers and their distributors, and retailers.

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AMERICANS ASKED TO PROVIDE FOOD - Washington - A new campaign in the war against famine will begin May 12, when the Emergency Food Collection will ask the American people to contribute canned food or money for the one-quarter of the world's population which is starving.

Accepting the chairmanship today, Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce, asked the local organizations which made a success of the Victory Clothing Collection to mobilize again to feed the destitute people whom they helped to clothe.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Herbert H. Lehman, former director general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration will be honorary chairmen of the collection in which community leaders over the country are joining.

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HOOVER REACHES BAGHDAD - Baghdad, Iraq - Herbert Hoover arrived here by plane tonight. He planned to leave for India tomorrow. The former President told a press conference that he would depart tomorrow for Karachi to investigate hunger conditions in India, for six days, then proceed to China and Japan on his way to the United States.

(For more items from today's New York Times, turn to page 2)

From The New York Times, April 22 (Cont.) -

RISE IN PRICES TO FARMERS OF WHEAT AND CORN EXPECTED TO BRING LIQUIDATION OF LIVESTOCK - Chicago - Liquidation of livestock is expected by packers to be one of the results of the new Government program raising the price of cash wheat and corn to farmers for a limited period.

It is said that the upturn will result in reduced feeding of corn to hogs and cattle and probably bring down reserves of corn to such a low point that the hogs will run much lighter in weight than recently. This is already in evidence, but brokers have expressed surprise that the Government did not order that hogs weighing over a certain weight be penalized.

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GRAIN TRADING IN CHICAGO - Chicago - Trading in grain futures contracted slightly last week on the Board of Trade, sales for five days aggregating 65,359,000 bushels, or a daily average of about 12,400,000. The latter compared with 14,300,000 bushels the previous week and 23,500,000 a year ago.

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RATIONING FUNCTION OF PRICE - Editorial - To obtain the corn and wheat so urgently needed in Europe, the Government is offering a large financial incentive to producers. The Department of Agriculture is giving a bonus of 30 cents above the market price to induce the shipment of corn, and a similar premium for wheat delivered under the recently announced certificate plan for that product. In effect, the Government is using the price system to help solve this problem.

Normally, prices perform a twofold function in our economic system. Higher prices act to stimulate a large flow of supplies or a larger volume of production. At the same time, higher prices cut off the less urgent demand and steer available supplies to those buyers who are willing to pay more because of more urgent demand. By offering this bonus of 30 cents a bushel the Government is outbidding the livestock feeder for this grain. It will be more profitable to sell corn than to feed it to hogs and ship it to the market in the form of pork.

Many of the actions taken in recent years have ignored what may be described as this rationing function of price.

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MILLERS FORESEE SEVERE BREAD OUT - Chicago - Unofficial rationing of bread is expected to become a reality before the end of next month unless drastic steps are taken by the Government to increase supplies of wheat available for milling purposes, according to mill representatives who are in close with the actual conditions prevailing throughout the country.

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COTTON RECOVERS SOME LOST GROUND - Future prices on the New York Cotton Exchange last week recovered some of the ground they had lost in the previous period. For the four-day week ended on Thursday, active contracts showed net gains of 50 to 68 points. The Exchange was closed on both Friday and Saturday in observance of Easter.

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From The Journal of Commerce, April 22, 1946 -

INDUSTRY OPPOSES U. S. PLAN TO BUY ALCOHOL FROM CUBA. Many American industrial alcohol plants will be forced to close unless the Department of Agriculture withdraws its recent offer to purchase 40,000,000 gallons of Cuban alcohol during the next two years as a tie-in agreement of the sugar purchase program; industry leaders declared yesterday.

Under the proposal industrial alcohol plants in this country would be denied Cuban molasses, the basic raw material of the industry, leading producers say.

Execution of the plan would cost the Government more than \$17,000,000 in subsidy payments, loss of customs duty, and other charges, according to industry estimates. Other direct losses would include 13,000,000 gallons of alcohol during the next twelve months because Cuban plants are less efficient, and 396,000 tons of by-product feed and 108,000 tons of dry ice, neither of which Cuban distilleries are equipped to produce, top executives pointed out.

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VARIED REACTIONS GREET BONUS, FLOUR CONSUMPTION ORDERS. Chicago, (AP). Americans may have to cut their consumption of bread and other wheat products even more than the 25 percent ordered by the Government unless the Federal bonus inducement brings a rush of stored wheat from the farms, milling sources indicated here last night. A survey of the Government's program brought these reactions:

1. C. D. McKenzie, president of the Miller's National Federation, said unless farmers release their stores of wheat it is "extremely doubtful" sufficient grain would be available at the mills to produce 75 percent of the flour they turned out last year.

2. Dr. Franklin Bing, director of the American Institute of Baking, the scientific and educational arm of the American baking industry said the wheat slash probably would mean a horizontal one-fourth reduction in all products containing flour. There was no prospect, he added, that bread production could be kept up with a corresponding additional reduction in other bakery goods.

3. Most farmer, milling and grain trading sources said they believed the plan for a bonus payment of 30¢ a bushel would succeed in bringing stored grain from the farms although a "wait and see" attitude was taken by some.

4. Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, said the slash in wheat consumption would "do more good than harm" for the average American. Dr. Fishbein said the nutritional value of wheat products was available in other foods and that overeating was an important contributing factor in shortening longevity after middle age.

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CHICAGO MAY RYE AT RECORD HIGH. Announcement of the Government's program for obtaining grain to combat famine conditions in Europe was followed by a heavy buying movement in May rye at Chicago, Saturday.....Wheat, corn and barley were strong at ceiling levels, but May oats was sharply higher.

Buying of oats was based on the Government's offer to take unlimited quantities of the cereal for relief shipments to Europe, although no bonus was offered on this grain. Trade authorities felt that the current price of oats was not excessive, particularly if the Government was to pay a bonus of 30¢ a bushel for corn over ceilings in order to obtain the grain. There was also a feeling that the move on the part of the Government to pay a similar amount on wheat would be effective in obtaining grain for famine areas, although a few interests felt that many farmers would continue to find it more profitable to feed cattle and market the grain this way.

(Turn to page 4 for other items
in today's Journal of Commerce.)

Farm Digest 865-46-3

From the Journal of Commerce, April 22 -

TEXTILE MEN REVISE IDEAS ON EFFECTS OF PRICE CONTROL REMOVAL. The time has arrived for all sections of the primary textile markets to begin thinking and planning in terms of a competitive economy. Regardless of whether one favors or is opposed to continuation of price control we are now beyond the stage of theorizing and faced with the fact that price regulation in another ten weeks will be fundamentally altered or completely dropped.

It is evident that Congress is in no mood to continue the OPA in anything like its present form. The pricing agency's authority is to be curtailed and defined more explicitly than in the past. Should the bill prove to be unsatisfactory to the Administration and vetoed, it would mean the end of control. Should the agency be continued it will be so greatly liberalized that ample room will exist for the play of competitive forces.

The great fear in the minds of textile men who went through the price boom and collapse following World War I is that any hasty removal of ceilings would result in a similar chain of developments with all the aftermath of grief. It is for this reason along that many conservative men in the market have been in favor of continuing OPA with all its irritations, in preference to having to go on a price joy ride.

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From The Wall Street Journal, April 22, 1946 -

DISTILLERY TO START POTATO ALCOHOL PLANT IN MAINE THIS WEEK - Caribou, Me., (AP) - A potato alcohol plant, described by its management as the world's largest, will begin operations this week in this Aroostook County spud-raising empire.

John Barnard, superintendent for the Clarke Distillery, Ltd., industrial alcohol plant, said only one other such plant in the nation -- at Idaho Falls, Idaho -- depended solely on potatoes to produce the product.

Mr. Barnard said about 3,500 barrels of potatoes would be used daily and 1,500 to 2,500 barrels would be dehydrated and stored for use in summer months. Dehydrating will reduce to one-eighth the storage space required for bulk. In addition dried potatoes will be received from other states.

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A NEW WEED KILLER, 2,4-D, DEVELOPED BY DU PONT CHEMISTS, Wilmington. A new formula for the weed killer known as 2,4-D, or dichlorophenoxyacetic acids, has been produced by its chemists, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., announced.

"The use of 2,4-D is not entirely new in the continuing fight against weeds which cause an annual loss in the United States estimated at more than \$3 billion, chiefly agricultural," the company said.

Du Pont, however, delayed offering this material commercially until exhaustive research could be conducted both in the production of an effective formulation and its proper use in the field."

The weed killer, the company said, "does not deteriorate with age and has the advantage of being water soluble." "Plants treated with 2,4-D do not grow themselves to death as has been generally reported. It is believed by some investigators, however, that 2,4-D destroys weeds by forcing them to deplete their food reserves."

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PHILADELPHIA BUTCHERS CLOSE MEAT COUNTERS, Philadelphia (AP). Trades spokesmen estimated that some 2,000 stores here will not open their meat counters today. Vincent LoCasale, retiring president of the Philadelphia Meat Cutters Joint Council (A.F.L.), said the shortage of meat "is far more serious than any experienced during the war," adding that the average butcher shop here has only a normal two-day supply to sell each week.

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From The Northwestern Miller, April 16 -

NORTHWEST GRAIN TRADE THROWS FULL POWER BEHIND WHEAT CERTIFICATE PLAN -

If wheat farmers in the Northwest, particularly North Dakota, do not release their surplus wheat under the government's new certificate plan, it will not be because they are not informed of the plan. An educational program the like of which seldom has been witnessed in the history of the grain trade is under way under the sponsorship of all merchandising segments of the industry.

Elevator associations, grain commission houses and farmer co-operatives have thrown their full power behind the government's Commodity Credit Corp., its AAA field service and the Extension Service to give this plan every chance they can through education to bring out wheat from farms for the lagging export program.

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THE LAST DITCH, Editorial, Developments at Washington in the past fortnight or so, especially in the manhandling of agricultural crops and animal husbandry and their food products, leave room for wonder when these striving public servants will reach the last ditch of bureaucratic bungling and if they will recognize it when they do come to it.

The single story of the managed economy of handling the current record-breaking wheat crop entitles it to distinguished place in "Gulliver's Travels." Given a crop of nearly a billion and a quarter bushels of wheat, added to a substantial carry-over, this great army of well-intentioned "administrators" has so bungled the whole business of price controls and regulation of all things as to facilitate such incredible waste in time of need that what for months appeared to be only a comedy of errors now is revealed as a veritable tragedy of stupidity.

Senator Reed of Kansas said in Washington the other day that high officials knew perfectly well nine months ago about the certain need for vast quantities of American bread grains in the campaign of defense against world-wide starvation, but that they felt it would be untimely to impose any saving program while the American people were just recovering their spirits as the result of war's end. The evidence of months through which unprecedented quantities of wheat have been, and still are being, used for animal feeding, alcohol manufacture and what not else, bears out Senator Reed's view.

Today we are threatened with, of all things, bread rationing, an arbitrary cutting down of the people's supplies of even coarse bread, while wheat still is being fed in great quantities to livestock and poultry to keep up the meat supply — and try to buy some of it. What will be the next step is on the knees of the bureaucratic deities of managed economy. They have got to carry through, though it be with the continuing procedure of trying to undo one mistake by making another. Should we perhaps, pity them?

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From The Produce Packer, April 13 -

FOUNDATION FLOCKS, Editorial, Thanks to U. S. poultrymen, flocks in devastated European countries will have a rebirth through the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's program of flying hatching eggs weekly to breeders on that continent. Replacements have been sorely needed and UNRRA wisely is selecting quality eggs.

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From The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, April 17 -

EASTLAND'S INDICTMENT, Editorial, Senator James Eastland of Mississippi, in attacking the policies of the Office of Price Administration toward cotton and textiles generally, lodged a searching indictment of ineptitude and inexperience against a number of policymakers employed by the OPA. He made out a strong case against a number of key men, and his charge that they are causing trouble because of their lack of experience in business, among other things, has not been adequately answered as yet.

It would be interesting to know -- and the public is entitled to the information -- how a young man whose previous experience involved a \$1300 a year job as a mirror salesman ever became a business economist with any authority or influence in the Price Department, Textile Branch, Cotton Section of the OPA. It is inconceivable that such a man is capable of making useful decisions in a field of great importance where technical knowledge and business know-how are so obviously required. It seems, too, from Senator Eastland's researches, that that assistant director of the OPA Price Division has only two or three college degrees and some research work with the WPA to commend him.

The senator from Mississippi argued, and we think aptly, that it is impossible to expect satisfactory regulation of the cotton industry in any of its phases when matters are left in any decisive measure to what he called "the hands of the children of inexperience and bureaucratic despotism."

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From The Milwaukee Journal, April 16 -

OPA AND THE LESSON OF MEAT, Editorial, The OPA is preparing to go back to stricter controls over meat and cream. The situation is such that these stern measures are definitely unavoidable. The country, which likes controls no better than the manufacturers, will nevertheless support their return to partial wartime regimentation as a clearly necessary, though distasteful, step. The chief criticism will be that the bad situation was allowed to develop to a point where more drastic controls are necessary.

Congress, it may be hoped, will learn from what has happened in meat and butter that it is unthinkable to end our restrictive program at this time or to hamstring the only agency in the control picture.

Congress itself is responsible for much of what is disturbing in the present price and production situation; for it was congress which, by its delay in extending the OPA's life, created much of the confusion and diffidence. Producers, feeling that the OPA was "in bad" with congress, have dared do things they would not have done if strong controls had been assured for the future. The OPA in turn, feeling that its very life was in danger, has proceeded less boldly in some directions than the situation demanded. What agency could act vigorously with a rope around its neck?

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From The Times-Picayune, April 16 -

CANNED MILK ABSURDITY, Editorial, Evaporated milk consumers in this area may not know all the angles of the contention between the OPA and the canned milk companies, but what they do know and care about is that the row is reducing the already short supply of the milk and causing parents genuine concern for their babies.

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☆ APR 25 1946 ☆

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 23,-

MORE UNRRA GRAIN ON WAY AS TRUMAN CALLS IT PEACE KEY-Washington-Two specks of light relieved an otherwise bleak outlook for foreign food relief today as President Truman told Congress that the months ahead were critical and the producing countries must not fail in their obligations.

One development was an announcement by Director General La Guardia of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration that Argentina had promised seventeen shiploads of grain by the end of May, three of which were already on their way. Mr. La Guardia expressed his gratitude for that and also for a Canadian commitment of 7,500,000 bushels of oats and No. 4 wheat.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, United States member of the Combined Food Board, said a little earlier that there would be an increase for UNRRA from the 346,000 tons of wheat and flour previously promised for April by the wheat-exporting countries, but he said that it would be impossible to meet the agency's demand for 700,000 tons monthly. He would not estimate the amount of the increase in allotment.

JUNE 30 LIMIT SET ON FOOD FOR INDIA-New Delhi-Sir Robert Hutchings, Secretary of the Government of India's Food Department, said today India's slender rationing system could not continue beyond June 30 unless substantial food shipments from abroad arrived promptly.

His statement was issued on the eve of the arrival of Herbert Hoover, who is expected to confer here tomorrow with officials of Central Government and then go to Bombay and Mysors State and proceed thence to other Asiatic countries.

Sir Robert said that India now needed 400,000 to 500,000 tons of cereals a month.

Sirdar J. J. Singh, president of the India League of America, 40 East Forty ninth St., yesterday urged Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce, to include India in the distribution of food and money obtained through the Emergency Food Collection under the chairmanship of Mr. Wallace.

"SURVIVAL IS THE ISSUE"-Editorial-Farmers, millers, bakers and consumers all have problems to solve. There will be not only less bread but presumably an even smaller supply of fats and meats in the market. Nor can we conscientiously keep all we can buy. The Emergency Food Collection, under the chairmanship of Secretary Wallace, will ask us to raid our own pantry shelves in order to help the hungry in other lands. We cannot alter our eating habits in this way without some discomfort. But discomfort is the strongest word that ought to be used. No one's life will be shortened by the utmost we can do.

Possibly we are toughened to famine reports from China and India, though we ought not to be. The threat of famine in Europe, which many of us know more intimately and from which a great part of our population came not so long ago, comes closer home.

For many millions, as President Truman said yesterday in transmitting UNRRA's year-end report, "survival is the issue." In conscience we cannot fail. In wisdom we must not fail.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From New York Times, April 23 -

FOOD WHOLESALERS FIGHT OPA CHANGES-Wholesale grocers, acting in what is believed to be the first such move on an industry-wide basis, yesterday instituted a campaign to rally public and Congressional support for maintenance of efficient price control on foods, and issued a statement condemning the proposed amendments to the pricing regulation as preparing the way for a "catastrophic" economic situation. The action was sponsored by the National American Wholesale Grocers Association representing more than 1,500 operators who account for about 75 percent of the nation's food volume distributed through independent outlets.

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RYE AGAIN PUSHES TO NEW HIGH PRICE-Chicago-May rye today opened the limit of 5 cents a bushel higher than Saturday's close in the Board of Trade, selling at \$2.58 5/8, a new high record. All trades during the day here were at that figure, showing an advance of 10 cents a bushel in the last two days.

Active deliveries of oats were firm early but reacted under professional selling. The finish was 3/8 to 1 3/8 cents lower, with July 3/8 cent under the ceiling.

No change was shown in wheat, corn and barley futures. With May oats and new-crop deliveries of rye, prices held at the permissible maximums.

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AMERICANS ASKED TO CUT BREAD TO 7 SLICES A DAY-(NANA)-Herbert Hoover, in his radio address last Friday night, declared that under the program he advocated, "the American consumption of wheat products will be reduced to an equivalent of about 200 grams per person per day in European terms." (About 7 slices.)

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SCHOOLS JOIN FOOD DRIVE-Superintendent of Schools John E. Wade announced yesterday that the city's public schools would take an active part in the food conservation program organized by the President's Famine Emergency Committee as a means of preventing starvation throughout the world.

In a message to the principals of all schools he said that "time in every classroom should be devoted to the meaning of famine--a word which our New York children do not readily understand and which we hope they will never experience." The Superintendent added that the matter should be brought to the attention of parents through meetings of parent groups.

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CITY FORCES JOIN U. S. IN MEAT WAR-The Federal drive against black market meat in the New York area will be broadened and intensified with the complete cooperation of all the enforcement agencies of the city, United States Attorney General Tom C. Clark announced yesterday after a conference with Mayor O'Dwyer and other officials.

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TO CHECK EATING PLACES-Hotels and restaurants that appear to be plentifully supplied with meat while retail butcher shop refrigerators and shelves are practically bare will be the target in an expansion of the current drive against the black market, Leo F. Gentner, regional head of the Office of Price Administration disclosed yesterday.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 23 -

WHEAT USE CURB EXCLUDES BAKERS - Department of Agriculture officials stated yesterday that the restrictions imposed on mills' and food manufacturers' usage of wheat does not apply to the use of flour by bakers and while this was not amplified it was generally believed that this would also hold true of other users of the ground product for human food, such as macaroni manufacturers.

The 21-day wheat inventory restriction also does not apply to bakers who are still limited to a 30-day supply of flour.

Millers and bakers, however, were still studying the latest decree and it was expected that additional official releases will be necessary to clarify problems which will arise and to circumvent any distribution leaks.

Small bakers were apprehensive that they will not obtain an equitable share of the flour.....

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WHEAT AND CORN SUPPLIES CONTINUE TO FALL SHARPLY, Chicago - The visible supply of wheat decreased 2,847,000 bushels to 20,589,000 bushels this week, the Board of Trade reported today.

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RESULTS OF FLOUR CUT NOT FELT HERE AS YET- The Federal order, effective yesterday, which cut the nation's flour-consumption by one-fourth, had no appreciable "belt-tightening" effect on New York city's housewives and retailers a survey indicated.

Shelves in most grocery stores and bake shops continued well-stocked as bakers, with some flour stock on hand, waited until later in the week to develop a general policy which would curtail production.

There was no upsurge of buying. Deliverymen told grocers, who passed the word along to customers, that a reduction in supply will not be expected until late this week.

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FEBRUARY FLOUR PRODUCTION HEAVY, Washington - Production of wheat flour in February, 1946, totaled 25,500,000 sacks, only one-half of 1 per cent less than the all-time record of 25,600,000 sacks set in January, the Census Bureau reports.

The decrease is the smallest for all January-February comparisons since the monthly survey was started in 1923. Normally, the drop between the two months amounts to about 9 per cent.

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SENATE GROUP OPENS GRAIN SHORTAGE INQUIRY, Washington - Senator Aiken (Rep. Vt.), asked a Government grain expert today about "rumors" of a possibility corn might sell at \$3 a bushel if price controls are eliminated. The Senator questioned Willima McArthur, grain expert with the Production and Marketing, at a meeting of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Corn is now priced at about \$1.20 a bushel Chicago. McArthur replied he had not heard "this rumor" about corn prices but quickly conceded that corn prices could "go very high" if controls are removed. Chairman Elmer Thomas (Dem., Okla.) called the committee to consider the grain shortage situation as the Government's new program to cut flour consumption started operation. (For other items from today's

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 23 (Cont.) -

RICE MARKET - Tightening world's food supply trend is leaving the impression in rice market circles that there is little chance of any improvement in offerings between now and the new crop movement late next summer, and that the rice market will settle down shortly to an entirely nominal position.

Wholesalers are without stocks, according to trade reports and it is also felt that retailers' holdings will be eliminated during the next few weeks....

Meanwhile, the trade is studying closely the seeding developments of the new crop in the Southern States. A feature of this work is that an Arkansas seeding is about on a par with Louisiana and Texas, a most unusual situation, for generally that Arkansas is far behind the others and harvest likewise is always very late. Weather conditions have been exceptionally fine, allowing this movement, and now the hope is that there will be an early harvey, and a good production. At it stands now the planted acreage is expected to exceed slightly that of last year.

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SEEK TO VOID RISE IN COTTON MARGINS, Washington - A suit was filed today in Federal District Court here to void recent Government regulations increasing margin requirements for cotton futures trading to approximately \$50 a bale.

It is directed against Economic Stabilizer Chester Bowles, OPA Administrator Paul A. Porter and Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson.

Plaintiffs include: J. E. McDonald, Texas State Commissioner of Agriculture; J. A. Cooper of West Memphis, Ark.; B. F. Harbert of Robinsonville, Miss.; Sidney Livingston of Ruleville, Miss.; B. E. McDearman of Cleveland, Miss.; A. E. McDonald of Waxachie, Tex.; C. W. Parnell of Dallas, Texas; W. B. Yancey, Marianna, Ark., all cotton planters; and H. M. Cunscomb of Memphis, member of of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, and Edward J. Wage of New York City, member of the New York Cotton Exchange.

The suit alleges that the planters cannot "without prohibitive cost" sell cotton on the exchanges as a hedge against loss while their cotton is growing. It also asserts Wage and Dunscomb are unable, except at a heavy loss, to sell cotton for futures delivery to protect themselves.

In charges that Bowles did not have authority to require Anderson to issue his order of April 3.....

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THE WORST FEED SHORTAGE, Editorial - The Bureau of Agricultural Economics admits, in its current bulletin, that in many areas the current feed shortage is the worst since the 1934 and 1936 drouths.

Two factors are chiefly responsible for the lack of feed supplies. First, substantial quantities of grain imported from Canada and domestic wheat were available for feeding live stock during the war years, but such grain is being utilized as food this year. Secondly, the ratio of live stock to feed prices is so favorable that farmers have been feeding their animals heavily. Hogs marketed this year, for example, and a higher average weight than in any other year on record, and the quantity of grain fed per milk cow has been at peak levels....

Perhaps the most serious aspect of the feed situation is the sharp cut in corn and barley carryover that is taking place during the current crop year. It is officially estimated that the carryover will be more than 2,000,000 tons smaller by this summer than in 1945. Under these circumstances, the ratio of livestock to feed prices and current ceilings for both groups of products should be critically re-examined with the dual purpose of stimulating feed grain production and discouraging heavy feeding of live stock.

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From The New York Times, April 21 -

REPORT FROM THE NATION, Midwest States, Holding of Grain on Farms is a Famine Puzzle, Omaha, - It would be difficult to reflect in one all-embracing statement the current attitude of Midwest farmers toward the global fight against famine. Their patent hesitancy on parting with the remaining grain supply renders more difficult any attempt at etching an objective figure.

One thing is certain. The Midwest farm belt is working as hard this spring to meet Government requests for bumper crops as it did at any time during the war. Plantings to date indicate an acute awareness that 1946 Midwest crops will be needed to supplement the fare of hungry Europe and Asia.

What puzzles many is the farmer's apparent obstinacy in ignoring urgent Government requests to market wheat and corn, in order to meet the short-term needs in addition to next fall's demand.

Self-interest does, of course, enter into the farm attitude. But that constitutes only a small part of the picture. The average farmer weighed carefully a number of factors in retaining the remains of his 1945 crops.

Transportation was a major bottleneck during the late fall and early winter. His livestock, swollen in number because of unprecedented demand for meat, had to eat. Watching the inflation spiral mount upward provided a temptation to hold on for higher prices.

Recurring rumors of imminent price advances, originating from Washington and terminal markets, did little to overcome his reluctance to market his supply. Rumors that corn prices would rise substantially continued to hamper corn marketing this week, even though sizable amounts of "soft" corn have begun to spoil in farm cribs.

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NEW ENGLAND, Black-Marketeers Spreading Havoc in Forests, Boston, New England received warnings this week that black-market operators are devastating its forests which already are seriously depleted as a result of war demands.

Conservation officials are deeply concerned and many favor the enactment of more stringent laws to rectify the situation which they contend not only will create a shortage of lumber for post-war home and business construction but destroy forest capital beyond redemption.

Governor Charles M. Dale, deeply concerned over the situation in New Hampshire, declared the total economy of his State was dependent upon its forests and urged complete cooperation with a reforestation program. Replacement of reserves, he said, would take many years.

The final cuts of the few merchantable stands of New Hampshire timber are being made, forestry authorities warn.

Perhaps the greatest concern is being felt at present over the operations of black marketeers. Woodland owners are being offered such high prices that they are permitting their acreages to be cut without restriction, resulting in the destruction of thousands of acres of trees that should be kept for the future.

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Des Moines Register, April 17 -

FARMERS ARE CUTTING DOWN ON LIVESTOCK - Curtailment of spring pigs and of cattle on feed was reported in a statewide survey of livestock conditions.

The principal factor affecting livestock feeding and production has been the feed situation and some reduction in baby chicks and of poultry production also is indicated.

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From The Sun, Baltimore, April 21 -

A WORLD-WIDE ATTACK ON FAMINE BEGINS TO EMERGE, Editorial - Americans will be comforted and encouraged by the grain-conservation measures announced by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson. The measures aim at drastic curtailment of grain consumption by humans and livestock in the United States so that more grain can be shipped to famine areas abroad. Human consumption will be cut principally by orders limiting wheat use to 75 per cent of the 1945 figures. Livestock consumption will be cut by price adjustments making corn feeding less profitable and by bonus offers aiming to divert corn from livestock channels to Government granaries.

What is the reason for these measures? Mr. Hoover has just reported a series of figures which give a rough picture of the world need. There are, Mr. Hoover says, a minimum of some 150,000,000 people in Europe who face famine. To meet their needs, the present UNRRA program will go part of the way. But UNRRA aids only countries ravaged by war and unable to buy supplies. Mr. Hoover adds to the UNRRA beneficiaries the other millions who are in need in Europe and elsewhere but are outside the UNRRA scope.

To meet this overall need, Mr. Hoover says, the world must provide 11,000,000 tons of wheat by August 1. As he sees it, the United States' share of these shipments will be 1,100,000 tons a month, or about 44 per cent.

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From The New York Times, April 21 -

DECONTROL OF PRICES, Editorial - OPA has given considerable emphasis to the price increases which have taken place in products it has decontrolled. The large rise in citrus fruit prices last fall and the sharp increase in prices last fall and the sharp increase in prices of furs after price control was suspended are usually cited.

A survey of all the products from which control has been removed, however, reveals a somewhat different picture. The Colmer committee, in its report on "The Use of Wartime Controls During the Transitional Period," has made available the price history of dozens of decontrolled products. These price histories are based upon excerpts from OPA files. An examination of the data presented shows clearly that furs and citrus fruits represented the exception rather than the typical cases. Although prices have risen moderately in other instances, there are many products for which prices actually fall below the ceilings set by OPA.

If we are to return to a free economy, the area of decontrol should now be substantially extended. This is the conclusion that prompted the amendment adopted by the House requiring OPA to lift price ceilings on any commodity when production reaches 1940-1941 levels.

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From New York Herald Tribune, April 22-

WOMEN IN CITY CALL BREAD CUT 'A GOOD THING' - According to opinion gleaned in a survey yesterday, the women of New York feel they can do without so much bread and think the reduction is "a good thing." The wheat to be saved in the United States is earmarked for shipment abroad to meet what President Truman described as history's "greatest threat of mass starvation."

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Ask Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 24 -

LA GUARDIA WARNS 'HAVE' FOOD NATIONS: DAVIS SAYS WHEAT DELIVERIES SHORT-
Washington-F. H. La Guardia, director general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, declared tonight that all countries having surplus stocks of food "which are desperately needed by the 'have not' countries will have to come down in their reserve stocks."

"And if the 'have' countries do not," he added, "it will not have my approval or consent and I will have to take such action as may be necessary."

Earlier today Chester C. Davis, chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, stated that a survey had shown that on April 10 exports of wheat and flour for famine relief had fallen 407,000 tons below the quota set for the year to that date.

Mr. Davis voiced expectation that the emergency steps announced by Secretary Anderson, including the bonus of 30 cents a bushel for wheat and for corn, would bring an increased flow of grain to the market.

He expressed gratification at the widespread response the famine committee's plans have received. He mentioned particularly the cooperation offered today by the country's department stores.

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MORE MEAT IN SHOPS SEEN WITH CITY 'CRACKDOWN' ON-The city's meat supply, which has been choked up in wholesale houses or diverted to restaurants, will begin today to flow a little more freely to retail outlets, Leo F. Gentner, regional head of the Office of Price Administration predicted last night.

He indicated that the "all out" enforcement drive by OPA agents in wholesale market areas in the city had forced some meat back into legitimate retail channels.

Many evil practices in the wholesale markets and at the slaughter houses still must be rooted out, the most prevalent at present being upgrading of meat and false invoicing, Mr. Gentner admitted.

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HOOVER GETS INDIA APPEAL-New Delhi-Herbert Hoover, back in India for the first time in thirty-six years on what he described as "a tragic errand," heard its appeal today for 2,000,000 tons of food by the end of June.

Mr. Hoover, who is honorary chairman of the United States Famine Emergency Committee, conferred for hours with Indian Government food experts and his own advisers.

An Indian Government spokesman said:

"If Mr. Hoover is able to give India 600,000 tons of food in the next two months, beyond the 1,400,000 tons allotted by the Combined Food Board, we will survive."

SAYS UNRRA FAILS EUROPE'S CHILDREN-Cairo-Aid from the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and other agencies "is reaching a very small fraction of the children in real need in Europe," Maurice Pate, member of President Truman's Famine Committee, reported to Herbert Hoover in a letter released here today. Reports on the health of children in twelve countries accompanied the letter. (Turn to page 2 for other items - - - - in today's New York Times.)

From The New York Times, April 24 -

SHREDDED WHEAT PLANT TO CLOSE-Niagara Falls-The Shredded wheat plant of the National Biscuit Company will suspend operations tomorrow as a result of the 25 percent reduction in wheat allotments. The shutdown will affect nearly 900 workers.

PRICES OF CIGARETTES GO UP TOMORROW-ONE CENT FOR EACH 2 PACKAGES PURCHASED-American smokers, who are buying cigarettes at the annual rate of 150 packs per capita, will have to pay more for all brands. An Office of Price Administration ruling, it was learned yesterday, will be issued and made effective tomorrow, permitting a price rise of 25 cents a thousand on all makes of cigarettes. Pipe tobaccos and cigars will not be affected.

COTTON PRICES UP 17 TO 25 POINTS-Cotton futures on the New York Cotton Exchange fluctuated yesterday over a moderate range and closed 17 to 25 points net higher than on Monday.

END OF PRICE CEILINGS URGED BY GRAIN MAN-Washington-J. O. McClintock of the Chicago Board of Trade urged before the Senate Agriculture Committee today that price ceilings be lifted from all grains, beginning with the 1946 crop.

Mr. McClintock, who is vice president of the National Association of Commodity Exchanges and Allied Trades, Inc., said wheat stocks are being seriously depleted by feeding to livestock, and that black markets are diverting supplies of all grain from usual trade channels. Elimination of price control on grain, he said, is the only practical way to meet "the crisis we now face."

FARLEY FEARS FOOD REVOLTS IN EUROPE; SAYS U.S. MUST GIVE FIRM LEADERSHIP-Doubt that the American people generally really can comprehend the gravity of the food crisis in Europe was expressed yesterday by James A. Farley in an interview in which he gave his observations on an eight-week business trip abroad.

Mr. Farley warned that unless the people of this country cooperate fully with the National Administration and other agencies to alleviate the situation, there may be disorders, or possibly revolutions, in many countries where the food level is below the subsistence point.

SUGAR BEET SEED FOR AUSTRIA-Washington-The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration said today that it was obtaining 500 tons of sugar beet seed from Holland and Denmark for shipment to Austria. The UNRRA originally intended to obtain part of the seed from the United States. The European seed was taken instead, because of the shorter haul.

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 24 -

FOOD UP 23 P.C. UNDER "HOLD LINE" PLAN, WASON SAYS, Washington - The National Association of Manufacturers today "called the bluff" of OPA Director Paul Porter when it compared grocery prices of May, 1943, a month after OPA issued its "hold the line" order, with those of today and proved that housewives are paying 23 per cent more for staples in spite of OPA claims to the contrary.

Accepting an invitation to housewives from Mr. Bowles and Mr. Porter in a recent radio broadcast to compare food advertisements in May, 1943, with food advertisements today, to show that "the average market basket of groceries can be bought today, for the same amount, or perhaps a little less than it cost three years ago," Mr. Wason told the Senate Banking and Currency Committee that "we did exactly what Mr. Bowles suggested and we found the exact opposite to be the truth."

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MANY MILLS REACH DELIVERY QUOTAS - Many mills already had delivered 75 per cent of the quantity of wheat flour which they delivered to the domestic trade during April last year and were out of the market.

In actual practice the latest order will mean that the domestic market will obtain less than 75 per cent of the total during corresponding months last year, mill spokesmen pointed out, as it is based on a period when many million servicemen were overseas and a large percentage of these are now domestic consumers.

Considerable nervousness was apparent in milling circles as to the status of mills under the Government plan to pay a 30c a bushel bonus on wheat sold by farmers over the next several weeks. For all practical purposes the Government will be the only buyer during this period and it appeared very probable that many mills will be forced to seek wheat from the Government if they are to continue operating.

It was reported that the CPA had sanctioned a 2c a pound advance in the price of rye bread to compensate for the sharp advance in rye and rye flour but that approval by the Department of Agriculture was awaited.

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MAY RYE UP LIMIT IN ERRATIC TRADING - Recent predictions that the coming weeks will witness extremely nervous price swings in May rye were borne out at Chicago yesterday where it moved over the maximum 10c range permitted during a single day and finished with a net advance of 5c to \$2.63 5/8 to establish a new all-time high.

Rains were reported over wide areas of grain belt, which further enhanced the winter wheat outlook and improved the soil for spring planting and early growth.

A pick-up in country selling of wheat and corn was reported from some sections but this had not attained sufficient volume to encourage the hope of a material early improvement in supplies.

(For other items from today's N.Y. Journal of Commerce turn to page 4.)

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Farm Digest 845-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 24 (Cont.)

CEREAL PRODUCTS - There was an almost entire absence of offerings of corn meal or rolled oats with order on hand already in excess of small available grain supplies which have forced cutbacks or stoppages in operations by many mills.

Under these circumstances the prospect of an intensified Government demand for the milled product evoked no enthusiasm and unless there is a marked change in the supply and price situation it was expected that little, if any, will be made available to the Government on a voluntary basis.

The future corn meal supply outlook was beclouded by a lack of information regarding Government plans for disposal of corn acquired under the bonus plan and meanwhile mills were reported to be virtually withdrawn.

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MEMPHIS FAVORS BELGIAN EXCHANGE, Memphis - The Belgian cotton delegation's proposal to establish an international cotton market at Ghent, Belgium, met with instant approval from the Memphis Cotton Exchange.

Memphis cotton men welcomed the proposal as an alternative to the Liverpool market, which will remain closed by order of the British Labor Government.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 24 -

30-CENT BONUS EXPECTED TO DRAW CONSIDERABLE WHEAT, Kansas City - A check of elevators in this vicinity indicated that the 30-cent-a-bushel bonus offered to farmers for delivery of their wheat before May 25 would bring out considerable amounts shortly.

Otto Pecha, general manager for Quity Union Grain Co., said he believed 25% of last year's wheat crop was still in the hands of producers in northwestern Kansas, southwestern Nebraska and eastern Colorado, and added that a majority of the company's 65 elevators in that area probably have from 50,000 to 60,000 bushels of wheat each to sell.

Max Bates, head of the Bates Grain Co., reported their country elevator in Malvern, Iowa, reported a sale of 20,000 bushels of corn by one holder.

Some reports were received that grain had started to market by way of country elevators on Saturday.

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CORN BONUS PLAN, Chicago - Feeders and feed manufacturers must get a large percentage of the corn expected to be made available through the Administration's new bonus plan if the country is to avoid an excessive liquidation of breeding stocks and avert a reduction in meat, milk and egg supplies, according to the American Feed Manufacturers Association.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 22 -

FOOD PROBLEM TOUGH ONE FOR ADMINISTRATION, Washington, D. C., - The Truman administration is holding its breath in hope that the measures it has taken to conserve the country's dwindling food stocks and meet foreign relief commitments will be effective.

If the President's appeals for voluntary food rationing and decreased American diets do not produce the desired results, reinstatement of war time consumer rationing is the alternative. If government orders, the latest issued Friday night, to provide more grain for shipment overseas do not come thru as expected, Mr. Truman may be forced to rule arbitrarily in an intra-administration dispute involving correction of the present maladjustment between grain and live stock prices.

Famine committee members disclosed privately last week they are impatient with Mr. Truman for what they consider his failure to take positive action, altho the food crisis has been growing worse for several months. They accused him of "too much politics" and concealing from the public the fact that rationing soon may be necessary.

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From The Kansas City Star, April 21 -

SEE SHARP LIVESTOCK PRICE RISE - Widespread and at times violent criticism of price control policies as they apply to the livestock industry naturally have led to the thought that lids might be lifted which in turn has raised the question of what prices might do if the market were returned to a supply and demand basis.

Guesses at the stockyards here yesterday were that in an unrestricted trade hogs might bound up to between \$20 and \$25 and that the cattle top might be between \$20 and \$30. There were more guesses around the lower end of the price ranges than around the higher.

The World War I peaks were \$23.40 for hogs and \$25.25 for steers.

The consensus of the trade is that such prices would be reflected in consumer meat costs only for a relatively short period compared with the proposed 9-month extension of the OPA. If the livestock ceilings were removed and the meat ceilings retained, the advances in live animal prices probably would be maintained a very short time, possible only a few weeks, it was suggested.

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From The Democrat and Leader, Davenport, Iowa, April 21 -

FEDERAL BONUS OF 30 CENTS A BUSHEL OF CORN WILL CREATE PROBLEM FOR STOCK FEEDERS - Farmers of eastern Iowa received the news of the government's intention to pay a bonus of 30 cents a bushel on corn with mixed emotions Saturday. Those farmers who have corn in the crib for which they do not have need in their livestock feeding program welcomed the increase while farmers who have been buying corn for livestock expect to suffer a loss in feeding operations.

Livestock buyers are predicting a heavy marketing of light weight cattle and hogs as farmers are expected to clear out their feed lots in order to keep from feeding the animals the high priced corn.

With the feed situation thruout this section already serious, and with many farmers finding it almost impossible to purchase corn at the former ceiling prices, the government's bonus of 30 cents a bushel will make the problem more critical than ever.

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From The Christian Science Monitor, April 17 -

FOOD - BY TWO METHODS, Editorial - We are glad to see the United States Government displaying sufficient courage to restore wartime controls on meat and milk distribution. We trust it will have the courage to go through with the plan to set aside 25 per cent of American flour production for famine relief.

Certainly the move to get butterfat back into butter makes sense. The removal of controls but not of price ceilings turned it into ice cream and heavy cream - where it brought more money. It is plain by now that for adequate famine relief bolder action by the Government is necessary. That does not mean that the voluntary effort to save food should be abandoned. It can still help. Both methods are needed.

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From San Francisco Chronicle, April 18 -

FOOD FOR STARVING CHINESE, Editorial - In help from the Allies during the war China always got the little end of the stick. It is the same now in help in food to keep the breath of life in China's starving millions. Some eighteen millions of Chinese in eleven provinces, normally good food producers but wrecked by the war or by flood or drought, are facing actual starvation. Many of them right now are eating grass and clay.

Here is the largest group of persons anywhere on the globe face to face with death for lack of food and the response from UNRRA is pitiful. The help that ought to be given gets whittled down by every agency it encounters. China's pressing needs in rice and flour were long ago submitted to UNRRA. The organization approved for 15 months' supply a little more than the amount asked for nine months. The Combined Food Board then cut the amount for current supply by nearly a third. But actual procurements for this were only a third of the amount needed and actual shipments on the way and expected in April were about a quarter.

If there is any choice between feeding Japanese and feeding Chinese the Chinese come first.

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From St. Paul Pioneer Press, April 17 -

WISCONSIN FARM LABOR QUOTA CUT, Madison, Wis. - Although the farm labor shortage this year threatens to be as acute as at any time during the war, Wisconsin's foreign labor quota this year has been cut to 70 per cent of the number sent to the state last year, it was disclosed here Tuesday.

Arlie Mucks, state manager of the emergency farm labor program, reported that agreements have been reached for the importation of about 2,500 emergency laborers this year, about evenly divided between Jamaicans and Mexicans.

Moreover, there will be no prisoners of war for assignment to Wisconsin harvesting or food processing plants, Mucks pointed out.

The Mexicans and Jamaicans will arrive in Wisconsin between May 15 and June 15, Mucks said.

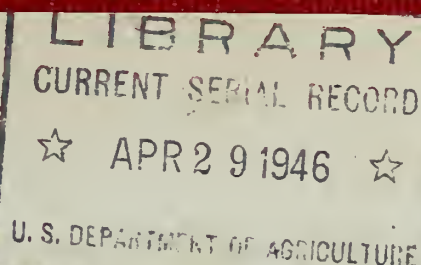
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From The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, April 21 -

INDUSTRY MAKING USE OF COTTON INSULATION - Nearly everyone has heard of cotton insulation at one time or another. It's development as an insulating material has been recent and the greatest accent has been placed upon its use in homes and buildings.

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST
(For April 25, 1946)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 25 -

FOOD BOARD GIVES UNRRA 100,000 TONS MORE GRAIN-Washington-An increase of 100,000 tons in the April allocation of wheat and other cereals of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was announced today by the Combined Food Board.

The additional grant will bring UNRRA's share of wheat to 460,000 tons, still considerably below the 700,000 monthly quota which Fiorello H. La Guardia, Director General, has insisted should be given to his relief agency.

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, United States representative on the Combined Food Board, announced the larger allocation at a news conference at which other members of the board and Mr. La Guardia were present.

The board released a statement warning that unless food shipments to famine countries were increased promptly "a breakdown of the ration system in these countries is threatened," and this would mean "chaos in food distribution."

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DRY WEATHER RAISES SOME FEARS OF DROUGHT, WITH THREAT OF CROP DAMAGE IN MANY AREAS-Washington-Unusually dry weather in some parts of the United States has raised the threat of a drought that could seriously damage crops, Loyd A. Stevens, of the Weather Bureau said tonight.

The acting chief of the Division of Climate and Crop Weather added that a drought was "threatening" but it was too early in the season to tell what would change overnight."

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CUT DUE TOMORROW IN BAKERS' OUTPUT-The three-day-old Federal order limiting domestic sales of flour to three-fourth of what they were a year ago may have its first serious effect tomorrow on the production of bread and rolls, it was indicated last night.

Several large bakeries, informed yesterday by the milling companies that there would be no more deliveries of flour this month, planned to make substantial reductions to tonight's baking. A few began trimming their output last night.

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HOOVER REACHES BOMBAY-Bombay-Herbert Hoover arrived in Bombay today and assured Indian officials that the United States would do all it could to keep famine at bay in India, as well as other starving countries of the world.

Mr. Hoover, who is chairman of the Famine Emergency Committee, made his pledge to members of the Bombay Food and Commodities Advisory Board during a dinner at Government House.

(Turn to page 2 for other items
in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, April 25 -

END MEAT CONTROLS SENATE GROUP URGES-Washington-A program for gradual removal of price controls and subsidies on meat was recommended to Congress today by a Senate Small Business subcommittee headed by Senator Stewart of Tennessee.

The committee, which has been studying the efforts of price control on the packing industry, suggested that dropping of controls start with the beef-slaughtering period in September and become finally effective after the hog slaughtering season in December, if no livestock shortage developed meanwhile.

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MILK CEILING HERE UP 1 CENT A QUART-A 1 cent a quart increase in wholesale and retail ceiling prices of milk sold in the metropolitan area, effective immediately, was announced last night by the Office of Price Administration here.

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COTTON PRICES SAG IN NARROW RANGE-Cotton futures on the New York Cotton Exchange held within a narrow range yesterday and closed unchanged to 10 points lower than on Tuesday. Starting 3 points higher to 3 points lower than the preceding close, the market eased a few points early on liquidation and some commission house selling influenced by the favorable weekly weather report.

The report said cotton planting became more active during the week, especially in the South Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains.

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OPA RAISES PRICES ON LIST OF ITEMS-Washington-News of price advances monopolized activities of the Office of Price Administration today. From maple syrup and including such items as paper board for milk bottles, metal upholstery springs, cotton textiles and exhaust pipes, the price agency made price adjustments to encourage production or bring returns into alignment with higher costs of material and labor.

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CHURCH FOLK ASKED TO END RICE TOSSING, CAKE EATING-"Eliminate the custom of throwing rice at weddings," is one of two suggestions made to the more than 1,000 pastors of Protestant churches in New York and vicinity in a letter sent yesterday from the office of the Protestant Council of the City of New York, 46 Cedar St.

The other suggestion is "urge your people to eat no cake." Both requests are made in the interest of food conservation, so that there may be more to send to sufferers overseas. The latter was signed by the Rev. Dr. Earl Frederick Adams, executive director of the council.

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From The Baltimore Sun, April 25-

CEILING PRICES ON CIGARETTES BOOSTED BY OPA-Washington-OPA tonight announced an increase in retail-price ceilings for multiple pack carton and vending-machine sales of cigarettes. The increases granted because of a jump in manufacturing costs, are: A half cent a pack on sales of two packs, four, six and so on. One cent on vending machine sales. Five cents on a carton of ten packs. There will be no increase, OPA said, for single packs.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 25, -

DROUGHT IMPERILS GOOD CROP PROSPECTS IN MIDWESTERN STATES - Chicago - Crop prospects in most parts of the Midwest have deteriorated during the past few weeks due to lack of rainfall.

General rains will be needed soon to maintain present good crop prospects, Chief Forecaster Dunn at the weather bureau here said. However, he asserted there is ample time for good spring rains during May to largely offset the present general dryness.

Winter wheat is in general good condition, except in dry southwestern areas. The condition of this crop in Oklahoma and northwestern Texas where it has been extremely dry, is mostly poor.

Seeding of spring wheat is making rapid progress and is nearing completion in eastern Montana and southern North Dakota and is also under way in the Red River valley.

The section in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, where dust storms were feared a month or so ago due to dryness, are now pretty well taken care of, Mr. Dunn said.

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CATTLE SELL BELOW CEILINGS, REFLECTING BLACK MARKET DRIVE, Chicago - Cattle prices dropped below ceiling prices yesterday for the first time in several months, reflecting a drive against black markets in the East by the Office of Price Administration.

The top price on cattle was \$17.75 a hundredweight, or 25 cents below the ceiling.

Order buyers, representing slaughterers not located in Chicago, however, continued to get more than a normal proportion of the cattle offered for sale. Armour & Co., for example, was only able to buy about 400 head of cattle and still remain within the O.P.A. price compliance limits. With receipts at the yards here totaling 9,000 head of cattle, Armour normally would have bought around 2,500 head.

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CANADIAN VISIBLE WHEAT SUPPLY DROPS, Winnipeg - Canadian wheat supplies continue to decline rapidly, reflecting the heavy export movement this season. A report issued by the Board of Grain Commissioners shows the visible supply of Canadian wheat had dropped nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels in the past week. The total is nearly 245 million bushels below the figure for the like week a year ago.

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DATA ASKED ON OPEN RYE CONTRACTS, Chicago - The business conduct committee of the Chicago Board of Trade has sent a letter to clearing members asking for information concerning all accounts having open positions in all rye futures as of the close of business. Information required includes name of account, type of account, speculative, hedging spreading, etc., bushels long or short, and date of purchase or sale of each open trade.

The above information is required by 10 a.m. Saturday, April 27.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 25 -

SENATE FARM BLOC PUSHES OWN DECONTROL BILL, Washington - Dissatisfaction with the Gossett decontrol amendment as far as agricultural products are concerned in the Price Control Extension bill passed by the House has led farm bloc Senators to write a new decontrol amendment which some legislators claim has a good chance of passing the Senate Banking and Currency Committee.

The amendment, which has not yet been formally offered, was discussed last night by a group of farm bloc legislators together with some members of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, it was learned.

The proposed amendment would decontrol price ceilings, for all farm products on July 1. In order to restore price ceilings on any such products the Secretary of Agriculture would have to certify that stocks, storage and production of the commodity in question were below the 10-year average on the preceding June 30.

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DEMAND FOR CORN SYRUP TO CONTINUE - Payment of an extra dividend of 20c in 1945 reflected adoption of a policy by the directors of A. E. Staley Manufacturing Co. that consideration be given to extra dividends when earnings, economic conditions, and future prospects seem "to justify such action," A. E. Staley, Jr., president, told stockholders in the annual report.

In a review of operations and prospects....Mr. Staley indicated that:

1. The large increase in demand for corn syrups and sugars will continue until cane and beet sugar are freely available. Most authorities believe this will not occur until 1947. Demand for the company's corn syrup has been "far greater than our production."

2. Wartime experience has proved that cornstarch can replace tapioca starch for virtually all domestic needs, though tapioca, imported duty-free normally undersells corn starch. The most difficult problem is obtaining an adequate supply of corn, with prospects for the current crop year "not bright." The problem "would be completely solved if ceiling prices were suspended."

3. Demand for soybean products continues at unprecedented levels. Under Government regulations the company pays a higher price for beans used in its new plant than in two older ones. Present arrangement has resulted in reasonable profits, but restoration of competition would be welcomed.

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SUGAR ALLOTMENT CURB TO 60% SEEN - The views expressed here yesterday were not revised any by the majority of sugar observers after studying the Combined Food Board allotments of sugar for the United States and other areas.

The consensus is that third quarter industrial users allotments will remain at 60 per cent .

Opinion is somewhat divided over prospects for the fourth quarter, chiefly on the basis that it is an election year and that the Government may try to squeeze out of the limited supply enough sugar for industrial and other users to give a 5 to 10 per cent increase.

On the basis of the figures made available no one is willing to go on record that the figure will be higher. Some authorities pointed to the continental supply of 1,750,000 tons used by the Combined Food Board as offering an opportunity for an improvement, explaining that the production on the continent will be higher. The figure used, however, it is emphasized, is the amount which will be available for distribution. It is not a crop estimate.

From Boston Herald, April 23 -

BREAD SHORTAGE FEARED IN WHEAT WITHHOLDINGS-A shortage of bread will develop this year if farmers continue to withhold their wheat from the mills in anticipation of higher prices. Robert E. Sullivan, executive-secretary of the New England Bakers Association, said yesterday.

He said Americans could get along with 25 percent less bread this year, to feed the hungry of Europe, but warned that the supply might be cut by as much as 50 percent if the government's new wheat subsidy failed to attract wheat to the mills.

Bakers of New England will cooperate with the government order reducing the domestic supply of wheat flour to 75 percent of last year's production, he said, but "bakeries are faced with a real danger of not being able to obtain even 75 percent, of the amount used in 1945, unless wheat begins to move off the farms in sufficient quantities.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, April 22 -

MILWAUKEE FIGHTS WAR'S FAMINE-Editorial-It is encouraging to note that some 50 church, labor, fraternal and civic groups in Milwaukee have come together spontaneously to organize a famine prevention program in the county. With other invited groups, this food conservation committee will not only tell the community of the dire need for exporting food to the people of the devastated areas of Europe but will also explain exactly what steps should be taken to make the maximum quantity available with the minimum of disturbance to ourselves.

Surely the people of Milwaukee will want to co-operate wholeheartedly in what this committee is undertaking. By now most of us have heard enough of Europe's food story to bring home the conviction that we must make conscious effort to be of help. It is not enough for us now and then to go without an extra slice of bread. We must organize our diets on the basis of leaving as much as possible, particularly of wheat and fats, for shipment to those who may actually die without our help.

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From The Chicago Journal of Commerce, April 23 -

U. S. BLACK MARKETEE-Editorial-Administration officials have their fingers crossed while they wait to see what effect the new bonus plan has in marshaling domestic grain supplies for the world's hungry. And it is small wonder that these men are far from confident that the program will work.

So it is in the grain and feed businesses. Until the mechanics of the gigantic endeavor are announced, and many questions are answered, no private authority is predicting either success or failure.

But one point about the plan is crystal clear: The Administration has gone into the black market.

The government is offering a 30 cent a bushel bonus on corn held by farmers and an identical premium on wheat likewise held by the producers. Thirty cents roughly approximates the differential between the legal ceiling on corn and the legal price. Some feed manufacturers who get around the country report the black market differential is 25 to 30 cents; others say it's 35 to 40 cents. The fact is however, that the Agriculture Department has little say in the matter. Stabilization Director Bowles does have the final say, and he clings to the fiction of holding prices down. It is an interesting commentary on the state of the administration's morality that Washington prefers to enter into the black market instead of taking the honest and courageous step of returning to normal marketing practices.

From Watertown Daily Times, April 22 -

AMERICA MEETS THE FOOD CRISIS-Editorial-As was predicted, America is awakening to the world need for food now that the crisis has been made clear. In addition to such nationwide decrees as a 25 percent reduction in flour consumption by bakers, the country is being mobilized for a canned food canvass for shipment to Europe and Asia. Secretary of Commerce Henry Wallace is chairman of the collection campaign. It will start May 12 in every community.

This is the sort of thing which Americans do well. Last Fall, for example, the nation mobilized for a clothing campaign for needy countries and in 20 days dispatched 11,700 tons of clothes to foreign lands. The crisis evaporated in thin air. Recall too the book campaign which the libraries of the country abndled for men in the service. The total of contributions has never been fully announced but the number of volumes reached millions.

An energetic campaign for money and canned foods for European and Asiatic lands will do much to alleviate present suffering.

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From The Chicago Daily Tribune, April 23 -

U.S. CORN GOALS FOR OVERSEAS CALLED DANGER-Fear that the government will purchase so great a supply of the nation's corn for shipment overseas as to leave the American farmer without feed for cattle and fowl, thus depriving the average citizen of all meat, was expressed yesterday by the American Feed Manufacturers' Association.

With the diversion of wheat from livestock to human consumption the association pointed out the importance of an even distribution of corn supplies to the nation's farmers for feed. Under last week's order of the United States department of agriculture, the Commodity Credit corporation was authorized to purchase 50 million bushels of corn.

"There were indications that the government intended to ship all corn abroad," the association asserted. "Farmers in this country face the most critical feed shortage in the nation's history, which inevitably means reduced food supplies within a few months."

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From The Democrat and Leader, Davenport, Iowa, April 22 -

PREMATURE ALARM-Editorial-The most kindly thing to be said about a statement credited to the United States Department of Agriculture that a new dust bowl was forming in Southwestern Kansas and Northwestern Oklahoma is that it was a bit premature, according to observers on the ground.

It is true, of course, that the region had a "blow" which in a small degree was similar to those suffered during the protracted drought of several years ago. It is also true there has been a shortage of moisture during recent months, and the wheat crop is not too promising at the moment because of a lack of rainfall.

But there is nothing in the present situation to justify predictions that another dust bowl era is starting. To take the position a season unfavorable growing conditions will serve to whip farmers in the areas affected is to admit a woeful lack of understanding of a people which has gone thru many more serious trials and tribulations to establish and maintain, thru thick and thin, a vast and rich empire.

There is none to deny the effective service rendered by the Department of Agriculture. It has done much to improve farming conditions in all parts of the nation. But in this instance Washington has failed to take into consideration the spirit of the people who may be facing unfavorable growing conditions which will be only temporary at the worst. - - -

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 26 -

WHEAT STOCKS IN STORAGE APRIL 1 DECLARED THE LOWEST IN 8 YEARS-Washington-Stocks of wheat in storage throughout the country touched the lowest levels in eight years on April 1 and current exports of the grain are lagging sharply behind goals called for in the world famine-relief program, the Department of Agriculture disclosed in two reports today.

In a survey which Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, said revealed "a very serious situation," the Agriculture Department's Crop Reporting Board estimated a total of 338,644,000 bushels of wheat in storage in all positions, on and off farms, on April 1. This was several million bushels below an earlier unofficial estimate of the department and roughly 16,000,000 bushels below estimated requirements for the second quarter of this year.

Later in the day the department reported that exports of wheat in the period April 1 to 20 were 198,000 long tons (there are thirty-seven and one-half bushels to a ton) below the goal originally set. Shipments for the twenty-day period totaled only 468,000 long tons. The cumulative deficit since Jan. 1 was put at 512,000 tons.

CITY'S BAKERS KNEAD A KNELL FOR FANCY CAKE SO THAT MILLIONS CAN CONTINUE TO EAT BREAD-The doom of the fancy layer cake was plotted yesterday by bakers who preferred to let millions eat bread.

With flour delivery already shut off by several mills, the major baking companies began reducing their output of cakes and pies in order to forestall as long as possible the necessity of serious cuts in their production of the ordinary loaves and rolls.

One baker said the immediate cut would be sharpest in the production of sugared and cream covered layer cakes because that would "kill three birds with one stone--the flour, sugar and cream shortages." He said that many other kinds of cakes, pies and specialty products would become scarce.

This expedient, the bakers said, will enable the big companies to continue, for a week and possibly longer, an almost normal production of the common kinds of bread and rolls. Some of the smaller bakers, with a less varied output, have already reduced their baking of bread.

NEW SLAUGHTERING QUOTAS ARE ANNOUNCED TO SMASH BLACK MARKET ON CATTLE, HOGS-Washington-The Government took two specific steps today to put into effect its program to assure a more equitable distribution of limited supplies of meat and secure more effective operations against the black markets.

The Department of Agriculture and the Office of Price Administration, in a joint action, announced the establishment of new slaughtering quotas for cattle and hogs. The action becomes effective April 28.

Philadelphia-District OPA Director Frank J. Loftus reported the price agency will seek injunctions against slaughterers who "have been paying unduly high prices for livestock in violation of OPA live cattle regulations."

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 26 -

DELAYS 'FOOD FOR EUROPE' DRIVE-Fargo, N.D., -Arriving here by plane today with Secretary Anderson, F. H. La Guardia, Director General of the UNRRA, told reporters that "the food for Europe" campaign was being deferred pending further study, preliminary reports having disclosed that the proposed collection of canned foods bought at retail was proving to be an "uneconomic method of attacking the hunger problem."

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EAST COAST RAINS RELIEVE DROUGHT-Washington-A soft spring rain which fell through the day along the Atlantic seaboard quieted fears of the Weather Bureau concerning threatened crop damage due to the prolonged spell of dry weather. L. A. Stevens, acting chief of the Division of Climate and Crop Weather, said today's rain appeared to be just what the seaboard section needed to avert heavy losses which might have been suffered by farmers if the dry weather had persisted much longer.

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CHINA DROUGHT ADDS TO FAMINE PROSPECT-Chungking-Scanty spring rains in Szechwan are causing fears of a food crisis later this year in a Province normally one of the most productive in China, inhabited by 45,000,000 persons.

A deficient food output in Szechwan not only would cause suffering and probably starvation, but also would accentuate the famine conditions in the adjacent middle Yangtze Provinces of Hunan, Hupeh and Honan, where the hungry already are dying in increasing numbers. The outlook for food production in the three mid-China Provinces is poor because of the war toil of farm animals and lack of seeds and tools.

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BRITAIN CUTS GRAIN FOR BREAD, BEER-London-Britain with her own grain stocks reduced to less than two months' supply, announced measures to aid the official world grain shortage, including a cut in the size of the standard bread loaf with no change in price. The production of beer was ordered reduced to 90 per cent of the pre-war level, which means reduction of 15 percent in the present output. Diversion of 200,000 tons of grain from stocks here or on the way was authorized to help the countries threatened with famine.

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From The New York Herald Tribune, April 26 -

WHEAT STARTS TO ELEVATORS-Chicago-The first trickle of "mercy" grain for the world's starving peoples moved toward elevators from hundreds of farms today as experts predicted an all-time bumper crop of winter wheat--if there is sufficient rain. With the weather qualification, there was comforting news, for the millions now hungry, from all sections of the great central plains wheat belt.

Grain dealers and processors said the winter wheat crop will equal government estimates of 830,000,000 bushels, 7,000,000 more than 1945, for the nation's third consecutive bumper yield.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 26.-

SUBSIDY RENEWAL STEADIES COTTON PRICES - Governed solely by Washington news, prices fluctuated erratically in an irregular session on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday. At closing the range was up 4 to off 7 points.

Inflationary sentiment was spurred by reports from Washington that the Department of Agriculture had extended the cotton export subsidy program until June 30, 1947. Prices fell off from the highs resulting from this news when a House group was reported to be urging unamended extension of price control.

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PRODUCTION OF ARGENTINE COTTON UP, IMPORTS DOWN, Washington - Argentina is rapidly approaching the point where it will be a net exporter of cotton goods in contrast to its prewar position as a substantial net importer, the Department of Commerce...has reported.....

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QUALITY OR QUANTITY - Editorial - Notwithstanding governmental "intentions to plant" reports indicating increased acreage for some vegetable canning crops this season, reports in the industry indicate that many canners are reducing their acreage, contracting below 1945 levels. This is particularly true, it is indicated, in the case of many canners who have determined upon stringent quality control programs....

While current indications are that staple canned foods will continue in a short position, possibly well into 1947, canners nevertheless realize that competitive selling is on the way back, and that quality will again become the predominant factor in trade and consumer demand....Although widespread reports of deliberate "upgrading" in the sale of canned foods during the war years were never substantiated, it is no secret that quality standards slipped.....

The current industry trend toward quality emphasis is an encouraging development, and reflects carefully planning by industry's position to meet any future challenges.....

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OATS FUTURES GAIN; RYE DECLINES - Announcement by the Department of Agriculture that corn acquired under the recently announced bonus payment plan will be exported or furnished to domestic processors and indicating that none will be available for domestic feeding stimulated buying of deferred oats futures at Chicago which finished fractionally higher...

Failure of the Government to release any of its corn acquisitions for feed would tend to increase the already active demand for cash oats, traders pointed out. While the Government program is in effect only insignificant quantities of low grade corn are likely to be available in commercial channels thereby necessitating greater substitution of oats which currently are being offered in limited volume...

The need of moisture again was reported from some sections of the Southwest and Northwest, but the over-all outlook continued favorable and early rains would bring about a rapid recovery in most affected areas.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N.Y. Journal of Commerce)

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Farm Digest 865-46-3

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 26 (Cont.) -

FURTHER FLOUR USE RESTRICTIONS SEEN - Reports that bakers have been, or are contemplating, applying the entire 25 per cent reduction in flour deliveries against their bread output rather than distributing it among their other products may result in further restrictive measures aiming at elimination of such practice, it was stated in Washington.

Cakes, pies, etc., provide bakers with a greater profit margin than bread and it was feared that many bakers will greatly curtail their bread production in order to maintain their more profitable lines.

Mill men here were of the belief, however, that the steadily contracting supply of wheat available for grinding and the poor outlook for the next several weeks, with the Government virtually the only buyer of wheat will bring about even sharper cuts in production of bakery goods than indicated by the order limiting deliveries to the domestic trade.

After May 1 the CCC will be the only exporter of flour in order to expedite the relief program. Holders of export licenses will be permitted to ship quantities thus designated, but those with export orders and no licenses will be unable to ship after that date.

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WORLD CUT FOOD EXPORTS TO JAPAN, Washington - The Far Eastern Commission laid down the policy today that the United States should send only enough food to Japan to safeguard the Allied Occupation Forces.

As expected, the commission also asked the United States Government to review immediately its decision to ship more than half a million tons of food to the Japanese during the first six months of this year.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 26 -

U.N.R.R.A.'S DEMISE IN EUROPE WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL 1947 - All but Chinese operations of the relief agency were to end by December. Now an unpublicized State Department study contends starvation spots will appear next year even with good crops harvests. The document projects \$10 million of relief for Austria, \$50 million for Greece, \$300 million for Italy.

So within a few weeks officials will ask Congress to appropriate the last \$600 million for U.N.R.R.A. funds for 1946 and to wink at their use in 1947.

Currently, U.N.R.R.A. is having trouble spending the money it has because of wheat and coal shortages. By the end of last month, it was scheduled to have disbursed half its \$3.7 billion finds but had spent only one-third.

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INFORMATION ON GERMAN CHURN TO BE GIVEN U.S. BUTTER MAKERS, Washington - The Commerce Department reported a "novel German continuous butter-making machine," reportedly designed to produce 1,500 pounds of butter an hour, has been brought to this country for testing.

The machine, "captured" in Germany by Army Quartermaster intelligence team, occupies less space than American churns of similar capacity and "may be more efficient than American churns," the Department said....

From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 23 -

THE WAY TO GET WHAT YOU WANT, Editorial-The government is offering a premium of 30 cents a bushel on wheat and corn to induce farmers to sell what grain they still hold. This is, of course, a sensible thing to do, now that the government has belatedly discovered the threat of famine abroad and proposes to meet it by shipping grain. The way to get goods of any kind when they are not forthcoming is to bid the price up.

All of this is obvious to the administration in Washington now that it wants wheat and corn. The premiums offered are a confession that the principles which have been followed since the fighting stopped are faulty. Those farmers who have been holding grain have done so partly in the expectation that the ceiling would be raised and partly in the belief that grain could be sold more profitably in the form of meat than at the elevator. It was the disparity between meat prices and grain prices which made the black market in corn. Farmers who had animals to feed could buy corn at black market prices, haul it for long distances, and still make a profit on it, particularly if the fattened animals were, in turn, sold in the black market.

It remains to be seen, of course, whether the 30 cent increase will produce the desired result. The premium may be too much or too little. Nobody knows or can know before the event. It is sheer arrogance on the part of the bureaucrats to pretend that they can foresee with anything approximating accuracy what the response of the farmers will be. The right way to have gone about it would have been to remove all the restrictions on grain trading and to have bid for the grain until the amounts required for export had been obtained.

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, April 19 -

LESS LEGAL MEAT, Editorial-As the meat situation grows more grim, with packinghouse employees being laid off and retail markets dealing in legal supplies having only odds and ends to offer shoppers, those who believe that more regulations are the answer to the problem have an explanation for the current scarcity.

It is said that this time of year is traditionally one of low livestock receipts. When cattle shipments increase later in the year the proportion going into legal channels, it is argued, probably will increase and to the extent that it does increase the black market will be less of a factor in the overall picture.

While it is true that there is a seasonal decline in livestock arrivals at packing centers now, it is also a fact that the production of legal meat has declined more than seasonally. The figures released on Tuesday by the Department of Agriculture bear out this statement.

It is becoming a familiar charge that because the beef famine coincides with debate on extension of price controls, the reputable packers are deliberately turning away business in order to arouse the public against ceilings. The charge, which is heard chiefly from the C.I.O., should fall flat on the sole evidence that the C.I.O. packinghouse strike in January enabled the black marketeers to strengthen their grip on the industry.

An even more satisfactory answer, however, comes from Paul C. Smith, a vice president of Swift & Company, largest of the packers. Mr. Smith, testifying at a Senate committee hearing on Tuesday, said in reply to a question that no company could afford to sacrifice its future market just to sabotage OPA.

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From Watertown, N. Y., Daily Times, April 18 -

THIS ISSUE OF FOOD, Editorial-Uncertainty surrounds the food crisis. There is no doubt in the minds of most Americans about the need of assistance in European and Asiatic countries but there is confusion about the degree of suffering and about the methods which should be used to meet the situation.

America wishes to help and will help when the picture is made plain. What is one to think, however, when UNRRA spokesmen say that aid will be needed over a period of two or three years and that 1947 will be as serious as 1946? Certainly by next year Europeans should be able to do a good deal for themselves. What is one to think when a lone Soviet freighter with 80,000 pounds of wheat lands at Marseilles in France and is hailed by a three-day celebration when day after day American ships have been landing food supplies without a sign of recognition? Is food being used as a political weapon in European countries? What is one to think also of the news that the Argentine government is ready to ship 105,000 tons of grains to Britain monthly and yet British sources claim they cannot allow reallocation of any of the present American shipments?

We need strong and intelligent leadership in this matter of food. We need facts and figures. The job essentially is UNRRA. This world organization must divide truth from propaganda and lay the groundwork for quick, thorough and just distribution of supplies so those people who actually need help receive it as soon as possible.

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From The Kansas City Times, April 22 -

DILEMMA OF THE SUBSIDIES, Editorial-A person naive enough to admit that he didn't know all the answers might conclude from views of the control officials that it will take a depression of farm prices to bring about an end to the food subsidies. Such an idea would be called facetious if there were not so much basis for it as a fact.

The food subsidies were started to help boost or maintain wartime farm production while at the same time holding down prices to the consumer. They were to be removed when (1) food prices started going down, or (2) when production caught up with demand. The two reasons for removal are virtually synonymous for when production catches up with demand prices will go down.

But up to now food prices have not gone down. And under the subsidy program and OPA price ceilings production has not kept pace with demand. In the case of butter, for instance, production is falling instead of increasing. So the government in its dilemma proposes to increase the milk and butter subsidies in the hope of spurring production. In the meantime prices will be held down so that demand will remain constant or even increase. More and more of the consumer's food bill will be paid by taxes instead of being paid to the farmer directly.

This could go on and on and round and round. It must be evident to the farmer that the government has no way out of this whirlpool except through the falling of farm prices. In the meantime wages and the things that farmers must buy are going up. The government solution to the subsidy problem holds a bleak outlook to the farmer.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, April 29 -

RETURN TO RATIONS ON FOOD IS URGED-A call for immediate resumption of food rationing in the United States was voiced unanimously yesterday by representatives of 250,000 New York Jews affiliated with the American Jewish Congress.

At an emergency conference the delegates urged President Truman to reestablish rationing machinery and thus save "150,000,000 starving men, women and children of all races, colors and creeds throughout Europe and Asia who face death unless immediate aid is forthcoming."

Governor Dewey told the conference, in a message, that "the work you are carrying on serves not only to benefit the stricken and destitute peoples of Europe, but the fundamental interests of the entire world."

Speakers stressed the point made by Herbert H. Lehman, former Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, in a message, that the urgency of the situation "will not be relieved within any measurable time." Mr. Lehman also called on private organizations to supplement official relief.

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SEES DIRE NEED IN UKRAINE-Washington-Fiorello H. La Guardia of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, said tonight in speaking of the desperate food situation abroad, that there was a critical need for relief in the war-devastated Russian Ukraine.

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LARD OUTPUT SLOW IN SPITE OF MORE HOGS: LIGHTER WEIGHT ANIMALS ARRIVE AT MARKETS-Chicago-Although the movement of hogs to terminal markets showed some increase last week, the output of lard did not show a corresponding gain due to the lighter weight of the arrivals, and with the Government offering a bonus of 30 cents a bushel over the ceiling price for cash corn, packers and brokers expect the average weight of hogs will show a further reduction.

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PRICES IRREGULAR IN COTTON TRADING-Cotton prices in the domestic market continued to fluctuate irregularly last week, with sentiment influenced by Washington developments on price control legislation. At the close of trading on Saturday, active futures contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were up 8 points to down 6 points. In the previous week the market had registered gains of 50 to 68 points.

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GRAIN TRADING IN CHICAGO-Outside interest in May rye is decreasing and this was reflected last week in a smaller daily volume of business on the Board of Trade. Sales of all futures aggregated 70,012,000 bushels, or a daily average of 11,700,000. The latter compared with 12,400,000 bushels the preceding week and 25,800,000 bushels a year ago.
(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

From The New York Times, April 29 -

CASH WHEAT SEEN TIGHTEST IN YEARS-Chicago-The domestic cash wheat situation as shown by a Department of Agriculture estimate as of April 1, is much tighter than a majority of the grain trade anticipated. Stocks in all positions are placed at 339,000,000 bushels, the smallest in recent years and compared with 563,000,000 bushels a year ago.

Statisticians, after an analysis of the situation, expect that the carry-over into the new crop year starting July 1 will be around 100,000,000 bushels. This will be the smallest in over sixteen years, except in 1937, which followed the drought in 1936.

The Government's 30-cents a bushel bonus program for wheat sold before May 25 has not received the enthusiastic reception that was expected, according to trade reports, as there was only 200,000,000 bushels on farms April 1; and a considerable part of the wheat in the Dakotas and Montana is held in areas where drought threatens to curtail this year's crop greatly. The bulk of the available farm supply of cash wheat is held in the Northwestern States.

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SOUTH AFRICA CUTS WHEAT USE-Capetown-Manufacture of all cake, confectionery and macaroni in the Union of South Africa will stop May 1 because of the wheat shortage, agriculture Minister J. G. Strauss announced today. The production of biscuits was ordered cut to 40 percent of the pre-war level. The serving of bread or any wheat products at meals or with refreshments between 3p.m. and 4a.m. was prohibited.

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FAMINE LOOMS IN JAPAN-Tokyo-The portents of coming famine are beginning to appear in Japan.

Sapporo, large city on Hokkaido reported today that its rice stocks could not feed the people beyond tomorrow when they would be exhausted. Municipal authorities are appealing to headquarters for stocks of California rice.

The Government's April 23 figures showed that Tokyo had only 2-4 days' ration supplies on hand while an average of the eleven largest cities showed 12.8 days, with arrivals virtually nothing.

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DISTILLER DONATES FLOUR FOR UNRRA-Armand Hammer, president of United Distillers Ltd., announced he had offered to President Truman 1,000,000 pounds of wheat flour for distribution by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Mr. Hammer said he wanted no payment for the flour, which had been allocated to his concern by the Department of Agriculture for the manufacture of sugar syrup.

"Although there is a critical shortage of sugar in this country," Mr. Hammer wrote to the President, "it seems to me that the needs of hungry people should have priority."

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 29 -

BRAZILIAN COTTON NOW MOVING TO BRITAIN IN LARGE VOLUME, Liverpool - The feature of the current raw cotton import movement is the large shipments now being made from Brazil. This cotton was purchased by the Ministry of Supply during the later war years but could not be cleared from Santos owing to lack of freight. Arrivals also include moderate quantities of Egyptian, Peruvian, Argentine and East African qualities.

Allocations of raw cotton for distribution to spinners are averaging 30,000 to 35,000 bales weekly of which approximately 7,000 bales are American cotton.

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TRUMAN APPROVES HIDE CONTROL SETUP, Washington - President Harry S. Truman has decided that international hide and skin controls should be continued, although with a few changes from present practices, it was learned today.

The decision by the President culminates a sharp divergence of opinion which had developed between the Office of Economic Stabilization and Office of Price Administration on the one hand and the State Department on the other. State Department officials had presented the view that there should be a return to free trading and open markets at an early date, in order to be consistent with over-all State department international policy.

OES and OPA contended that without the international purchase plan for hides and skins it would be impossible to continue ceiling prices now in effect.....

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SUGAR IMPORTS CONTINUE LIGHT - Sugar imports from offshore areas in the week ended April 20 were 61,580 tons at all United States ports, but only 17,770 tons were for the Atlantic Coast ports of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The situation in the East continues tight and with a new stamp becoming available on Wednesday is expected to deteriorate before it improves.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 29 -

GERMAN FOOD FIGHT, Berlin - Farmers in the American zone of occupied Germany are trying desperately to get maximum production from their land.

A party of experts from the food and agriculture branch of the U.S. military government, accompanied by this correspondent, has just completed a ten-day tour of the zone to observe results of their efforts.

They are also converting timberland to agricultural tracts, plowing up air fields and maneuver grounds, and planting gardens in cemeteries, churchyards and the ruins of bombed-out houses. They are conducting soil experiments, conscripting farm labor, encouraging barter systems to increase farm production, eating food formerly only given to animals, and sowing seed alongside railroad tracks. They even organize wild boar hunts to reduce crop damage done by these animals. All this reflects the struggle involved in converting a highly industrial nation into one primarily agricultural. The conversion is made imperative by the Potsdam agreement and recently enunciated plans for reparations and a restricted level of German industry. The conversion is almost insurmountably difficult, since Germany, always a food importing country, has lost nearly 25% of its arable land. (Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N.W. Wall Street Journal)

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 29 (Cont.) -

LACK OF WHEAT CLOSES TWO OMAHA FLOUR MILLS, Omaha, Neb. - Two of Omaha's three large flour mills have halted operations because of a lack of wheat.

R. S. Dickinson, president of Nebraska Consolidated Mills Co., said other mills in Nebraska and Kansas have stopped milling because of the Government order restricting production to 75% of the amount milled a year ago. Stalled here are Consolidated and Omar, Inc. Only the Maney Milling Co. is operating.

Mr. Dickinson stated that when the order was issued Consolidated's mills here, at three other Nebraska towns and in Alabama had reached the 75% limit for April.

"Practically every other mill in the country also had milled that much," he asserted.

Omar has an 18-day supply of wheat, Consolidate 21 days'. They fear the 30-cent premium payment plan will put the cost of grain out of the reach of millers. Mr. Dickinson said Consolidated may have to cut its payroll of 265 employes 50%.

Stores and bread route firms are instituting customer rationing.

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HAWAIIAN SUGAR COMPANIES - Earnings of the Hawaiian sugar companies in 1945 followed closely the previous year's pattern, despite the major dislocation of business following the war's end. Earnings of eight reporting companies, which accounted for about 85% of net profits of all the 15 companies reporting in 1944, aggregated \$4,054,243 last year, an increase of \$90,630 over 1944. Of the eight companies reporting, five showed net income gains ranging from 3 cents to 40 cents a share, but three others earned from 2 cents to \$1.01 less per share than in the previous year. All reported profitable operations.

Since the price of raw sugar remained stabilized at the O.P.A. ceiling price of \$75 a ton, a substantial operating loss would have been incurred by companies had this been their only source of revenue. As in previous years, however, payments of \$4 a ton were made in 1945 under the Sugar Act of 1937, and the Commodity Credit Corp. also made payments of \$11 a ton to sugar producers last year in an effort to maintain maximum production.

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SAFeway STORES - Safeway Stores, Inc., acquired a number of butter and cheese plants and added four new slaughter houses in 1945. Regulations on livestock pricing made it necessary to purchase and feed many animals required for its slaughter plants, Lingan A. Warren, president, reported.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, April 29 -

JAPAN'S 46 PRODUCTION OF RAW SILK ESTIMATED - Japanese production of raw silk during 1946 is estimated at 120,000 bales, which added to the 85,000 bales on hand as of Dec. 31, 1945, made a total of 205,000 bales available this year, according to a bulletin released yesterday by the United States Testing Co., Inc. Of this total, the bulletin said, 130,000 bales are earmarked for export, 80 percent of which may be consigned to the United States.

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From Chicago Daily Tribune, April 25 -

FARMERS FACE HEAVY LOSSES BY CORN BORER-Illinois farmers face the possibility of tremendous losses to their corn crops this year from the corn borers which have wintered in old corn stalks, trash, and weeds. The pests multiplied so rapidly Illinois now has the heaviest infestation in the nation, Dr. George Decker, entomologist for the state natural history survey reported yesterday.

The northwestern section of the state is the most heavily infested, Dr. Decker said. In Ogle county the borer population averages four to every stalk of corn, he said. An average of more than one borer per stalk is considered a serious threat to the corn crop.

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From The Antigo Daily Journal, Antigo, Wisconsin, April 22 -

NO DIETARY CALAMITY, Editorial-The 25 per cent cut ordered in domestic flour consumption will call for versatility and resourcefulness on the part of housewives and other cooks.

Fortunately there are many ways in which wheat flour products can be replaced without injury, and even to the benefit of one's health. Corn bread once, or even twice a week, would be relished in most homes. Buckwheat can be substituted for wheat flour in pancakes, at least in part. Oatmeal and cereals made of other grains than wheat can replace cereals of all wheat at the breakfast table. Rye bread can be served more frequently, as well as bread made partly of soy bean flour.

Potatoes and potato products, being rich in starch, can partly take the place of wheat bread during such time as the flour supply is restricted. So can hominy and hominy grits. Pearl barley makes a good cooked cereal as well as an addition to soups.

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, April 25

IT'S OPA'S STRIKE, Editorial-Some news accounts make it appear that makers of men's suits are planning a "strike" against the Office of Price Administration on May 1 unless price regulations are altered. The fact is that the regulations forbid the manufacturers to continue shipments. The clothing industry has no choice in the matter.

"MAP" is the obstacle. "MAP" means "maximum average price" and is a regulation to which OPA clings despite the evidence that the rule has caused the shortages of men's shirts and suits.

"MAP" requires the apparel manufacturers to make a certain quantity of lower-priced goods to balance the output of higher-priced clothes. But, as everyone knows, wages and costs of materials have gone up and the cloth that ordinarily would go into low-cost items isn't available. In the present price situation the manufacturers say they can turn out only high-priced garments -- in other words, engage only in illegal production -- because the marketing limit on this class of goods has been reached. This explanation is plausible but it leaves OPA cold.

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From Chicago Journal of Commerce, April 25 -

MILK DEALERS RIP NEW SUBSIDIES AS HARMFUL TO PUBLIC-Directors of the International Association of Milk Dealers yesterday described as "shocking" the new milk subsidies announced by Economic Stabilizer Bowles.

"More subsidies from government funds only conceal price increases and do more harm than good in the long run," the association president Raymond Skinner of Memphis, said.

"The milk industry is put in a false position with consumers, as actually the price of milk has been 1 to 2 cents a quart higher than consumers pay."

The directors charged the action will create more black markets and not overcome shortages.

A system of wartime controls which Mr. Bowles said would put more butter in the stores, the statement continued, "will create misunderstandings between consumers and the industry delaying restoration of normal supply and demand."

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From The Times-Picayune, April 24 -

SUGAR INDUSTRY MAY OBTAIN PRICE RELIEF-Louisiana's sugar industry "may get price relief."

The government is planning an extensive survey to rectify shortcomings in the present system which sugar men contend are putting them out of business.

Representatives of three agencies of the federal government met with sugar factory operators and sugar cane growers Tuesday in a closed meeting in the Whitney building to discuss the plan.

The sugar men were invited to the meeting by W. J. Dedicott, chief of sugar price section, OPA, Washington, but it was indicated at the meeting that the agency's "policy is not to give any information about this meeting to the press."

However, factory operators and planters reported that the OPA and the department of agriculture will shortly embark on a study to find costs of growing and processing cane in Louisiana.

It was revealed by one government spokesman that "a sampling of more than 30 sugar factories" will have company auditors and government auditors make such surveys. The plan is voluntary on the part of the mill operators, it was stated, and from it, the government "hopes to learn" two things (1) the cost of growing cane and (2) the cost of processing.

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From The Kansas City Star, April 24 -

GI'S SPURN THE PLOW-GIs are not returning to the farms in the Middle West, a survey of Missouri and Kansas shows. Inability to obtain suitable land and financing, shortage of farm machinery and the desire to work in the city are reasons advanced by county agents and others who have been asked about it.

Some observers say only one in ten veterans who left the farm to enter the armed services is returning to agriculture, while others believe one in four is a more correct figure in their area.

Industry is competing with the farm for labor. Many of the exservice-men have learned skills through their military training that have fitted them for good-paying jobs in the city.

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST
(FOR April 30, 1946)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF INFORMATION
Washington, 25, D.C.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 409A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, April 30 -

FOOD CLASH TAKEN BEFORE PRESIDENT-Washington-A conference of President Truman and four high aides afforded today an opportunity to air clashing views within the Government on ways to step up American aid to the hungry abroad.

One of the conferees was Dean Acheson, Acting Secretary of State, who has demanded much more drastic measures, such as seizure of some wheat reserves from commercial channels, than Secretary Anderson has been willing to take.

Other conferees were Mr. Anderson, Secretary Patterson, who has jurisdiction over occupation forces in Germany and Japan, and John L. Sullivan, Assistant Secretary of Navy.

None would say whether the differences of opinion were threshed out with the President. Mr. Anderson stated that the conference was part of an effort to "adjust loadings to be a little more hopeful to Army schedules."

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ARMY FOOD WASTE ASSAILED BY GROUP-Washington-A report highly critical of some phases of Army food-handling practices has been submitted to Secretary Patterson by a nine-man civilian committee headed by John L. Hennessy, New York hotel man.

The report, based on the committee's observations in September and October of food-handling at forty-two Army posts in this country, criticized wastage and unappetizing preparation of meals and recommended establishment of a centralized Food Service Corps., similar in authority to the Signal, Medical and Engineers Corps, to correct the practices.

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HOOVER PROVIDES PLAN TO OBTAIN ENOUGH FOOD FOR THE PHILIPPINES-Manila-Herbert Hoover said tonight that the food problem in the Philippines was comparatively easy to solve. He suggested exchange of surplus military vehicles for surplus rice of Siam and Indo-China.

United States High Commissioner Paul V. McNutt immediately took steps to carry out the suggestion. He said he would assume responsibility for directing the transfer to alleviate the expected rice shortage here, estimated at 300,000 tons in the next eight months.

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DANGER IN ORIENT STRESSED-New Delhi-Herbert Hoover said in a speech recorded before he left India and broadcast tonight by All India Radio that 11,000,000 tons of grain were needed "barely to maintain" 500,000,000 lives in twenty European and Asiatic countries until the August and September harvests.

He said available commercial supplies for the danger period were expected to total 6,000,000 tons, but warned that there would be "immense loss of life" if the remaining 5,000,000 tons were not provided.

"The problem is not only to cover this gap but also to provide sub-normal children of whom alone there are probably 40,000,000 in Europe at this moment to say nothing of Asia," he continued.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's N.Y. Times.)

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From The New York Times, April 30 -

WHEAT SEIZURE HELD METHOD OF DICTATOR-Atlantic City-Senator Kenneth S. Wherry, Republican, of Nebraska, criticized today a recent statement by Dean Acheson, Assistant Secretary of State, that the way to get wheat was to go out and take it. Mr. Wherry called the declaration "the language of a dictator and a tyrant."

PRICE OF RYE BREAD TO RISE 2C A POUND-The price of rye, only major grain not under price control, has gone up so sharply that the Office of Price Administration will give permission to rye bakers to increase their bread prices 2 cents a pound, it was learned last night.

Official authorization of the bread price rise was expected in the baking industry to be announced today in Washington.

PRICES FOR COTTON OFF 8 TO 16 POINTS-With a rather small volume of business, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange drifted aimlessly most of the day yesterday and closed 8 to 16 points net lower than Saturday's final prices.

It was reported in the trade that the forthcoming report to Congress by the Commodity Credit Corporation will reveal that a surprisingly small stock of cotton is left--so small in fact that it is possible that stocks may not be large enough to fill the various Government programs, such as UNRRA and other military pledges abroad.

WANTS ALLIES FED FIRST-Columbus-Urging care for the peoples of our allies in the war "and not our recent enemies," Charles Sawyer of Cincinnati, former United States Ambassador to Belgium, today declared reports of European starvation "exaggerated" when he left the Continent.

"I do not know what conditions are today in Europe," he said at a meeting of the Kiwanis Club here, "but I do know that when I was there a few months ago, statements made as to starvation in Europe were exaggerated."

OVERCHARGE ON CIGARETTES UNDER INQUIRY BY THE OPA-Following complaints by smokers that some dealers had increased cigarette prices beyond the amount authorized last week, the Office of Price Administration began yesterday an investigation of retail practices in this city.

Russell Hale, regional price executive, reminded dealers that the amended schedule did not permit a retail price increase for single packs of cigarettes.

From The New York Herald Tribune, April 30 -

CATTLE, POULTRY BREEDERS LACK FEEDING GRAIN-Poultry and cattle breeders will be forced soon to slaughter thousands of their chickens and cows because they can't get enough grain to feed them, grain dealers in New York and New Jersey said yesterday.

From the New York Journal of Commerce, April 30 -

BAKERS SEEK FLOUR BUT LITTLE AVAILABLE - Bakers throughout the country were anxiously seeking flour but most mills were either shut down or operating on Government and export orders and sales to the domestic trade were insignificant.

The supply position was expected to further deteriorate during the coming month and unless there is a reversal of Government policy which earmarks all wheat acquired under the bonus and certificate programs for export there will be a virtual complete shutdown of the milling industry by late May or early June.

Effective tomorrow mills are limited to a 21-day wheat inventory with anything above that level to be turned over to the Government.

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CHICAGO MAY RYE DECLINES 5C LIMIT - There was considerable evening up in Chicago May rye yesterday in anticipation of possible declarations of intentions to deliver against contracts, and the resulting break in that delivery carried the daily limit of 5c while losses in deferred oats were limited to fractions.

Some selling of rye also was attributed to a report that the Government may impose a ceiling on rye flour as of June 1 which, it was pointed out, would tend to halt the cash demand for that grain.

Weakness of cash rye at Minneapolis, where losses ranged from 6c to 8c, also was a depressing factor and offset another sharp production in the domestic visible supply of that grain to only 1,007,000 bushels, compared with 8,789,000 bushels a year ago.

Some interests were reported to be long May rye in the hope of obtaining delivery but traders believed that these were in the minority in view of the much lower ceiling price which will become effective on all rye as of June 1. Market action tended to bear out this belief as longs liquidated. First notices of intentions to deliver will be filed today and there have been indications that some rye may be tendered although quantities will, of necessity, be small.

Reports of favorable conditions for the new crop and the weakness in rye brought in commission house selling of oats which had displayed firmness early in the session.

Country selling of corn has increased since the Government bonus program got under way and receipts at terminals markets were the largest for some time, although the visible supply again decreased almost 1,000,000 bushels during the past week.

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WHEAT, OATS LEAD DROP IN SUPPLIES OF ALL GRAINS - Chicago - Visible stocks of wheat decreased 2,969,000 bushels to 17,620,000 bushels last week, the Chicago Board of Trade reported today.

Corn stocks decreased 967,000 to 17,680,000 bushels; oats 1,774,000,000 to 14,639,000; rye, 425,000 to 1,088,000, and barley, 287,000 to 7,597,000.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, April 30 -

ICE CREAM CHILLS relations between Bowles and Agriculture Secretary Anderson. On April 15, Stabilizer Bowles announced to the press that ice cream manufacturers would have to use less butterfat so that butter makers could get more of it. But Mr. Bowles neglected to notify the Agriculture Secretary.....

Mr. Anderson who doesn't approve....has so far refused to act. He will continue this tack unless specifically ordered to take the necessary steps by the Economic Stabilizer.

Meanwhile, Congressmen and the Agriculture Department have been snowed under by complaints from large and small ice cream makers.

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PRIME BEEFSTEAKS are going to be much scarcer. Lack of grain is responsible. Top quality cattle don't get that way on grass.

Normally there is an increase in buying for feed lots in March. But this year farmers in eight corn belt states bought 6% fewer "feeders" than in February. Compare this to last year's February-to-March increase of 56% for an idea of how sharp the feeding slump really is.

The livestock feed squeeze grows tighter daily. The trend is toward less beef tonnage and poorer quality meat.

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COTTON PLANTING in most sections of the South is running ahead of schedule. Acreage increases in some area run as high as 35% above last season. The average increase, according to a private survey, will be 10% to 15%. Significantly, the farm labor supply in many areas is reported good. In some sections the number of available workers runs from 5% to 25% above last year.

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CAKES AND PIES will not steal scarce flour from the nation's bread ovens. Fear has been expressed that bakers may continue the present rate of production of the more profitable "sweet goods" and let bread absorb all the flour cut.

This will not happen, spokesmen of the baking industry declare, because completion among the advertised name brands of bread is particularly keen. No baker wants to let his bread disappear from sight just to make a quick profit from his unadvertised brand of cake. This will not apply to small bakeries whose bread is not widely known.

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GOVERNMENT RETURNS 260 PLANTS TO 'BIG FIVE' PACKERS, Washington - The Government retired from the meat packing business last night when it returned approximately 260 seized packing plants and other facilities to the "big five" of the meat packing industry.

Praising the cooperation which the Government received from both management and labor, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson in a report to President Truman said conditions now permitted the return of the businesses to Armour, Swift, Wilson, Cudahy and Morrell.

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From The New York Times, April 28 -

REPORT FROM THE NATION-The Deep South-Sugar Mill Owners' Plan to Move in Price Fight-New Orleans-There were surprising, if not puzzling, developments in the sugar situation in Louisiana this week.

With the State's cane industry apparently healthy, owners of several sugar mills announced plans for dismantling their machinery and moving it to Florida. In Florida they think the higher sugar yield from cane will allow them a profit at present levels.

Their announcements preceded by a day the disclosure of the Federal Government's plans to sell "to the highest bidder" 1,019,000 pounds of Louisiana sugar. Next day the OPA announced that it was investigating an earlier Federal sale of about 1,000,000 pounds of Louisiana sugar at 28 cents a pound wholesale.

Syrup containing more than 1,000,000 pounds of sugar was sold by the United States Marshal on Nov. 27 and 28 to the Merchants Distilling Corporation of Indiana. OPA officials here say they received no ration evidence from the distiller and are investigating to determine what happened to the sugar.

News Notes: Strawberry prices on the Hammond (La.) exchange rose sharply after ceilings were removed ten days ago, but nosedived below the ceiling price of that date when berries from other States came on the market.

MIDWEST STATES-G. I.'s Reluctant to Resume Old Jobs on the Farm-Omaha-Midwestern war veterans are returning to the farm much more slowly than they left it to see Paris and Tokyo.

Reports coming in rather uniformly from every section of the area tell the same story of reluctance to return to the fields, at least under present conditions. One by-product is a continuation of the labor shortage that plagued the farmers' war years.

This farm - shy attitude among veterans is reflected in frequent appeals for help in Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and the Dakotas. Iowa officials held a special meeting recently to devise methods of luring rural veterans back to the farm. A tight labor shortage persists there despite the return of some 20,000 veterans each month.

Part of this reluctant attitude is of voluntary origin, part is dictated by circumstances. Although more than 1,000,000 soldiers have expressed an interest in post-war farming, most of them want to start at the top--as farm owners or operators. A shortage of good available land, at reasonable prices, forestalls this in most cases. They have shown little interest in starting as hired hands and working up to later operation of their own land.

The continuing dearth of farm machinery is another deterrent, while the obtaining of proper financing through Government channels has proved to be a slow and discouraging process.

MEAT SUPPLY HERE DROPS TO TRICKLE-City and Federal enforcement authorities coordinating in their campaign to curb the black market in meat continued their vigil at the few wholesale markets that were open for business yesterday, as supplies reaching retailers dropped to little more than a trickle.

The high-pressure driving being pressed against ceiling violators by the city, the Office of Price Administration and the United States Attorney's office was believed to be diverting some of the meat earmarked for New York City to less vigilant areas, where OPA ceilings are not being so rigidly enforced.

From New York Herald Tribune, April 28 -

PLAN TO 'TAKE' WHEAT IS HIT BY ANDERSON-Washington-Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson flatly rejected today the proposal yesterday of Dean Acheson, Acting Secretary of State, that the United States "take" wheat off the farms of the nation to meet its famine-relief quotas.

Both to reporters and over a national radio network to the grain producers themselves, Mr. Anderson said: "I want to say right here that there is no thought on the part of the Department of Agriculture that wheat should be requisitioned from farmers."

"The farmers I've talked with in the last two days convince me that every one will do all that can be expected of him," he added. "The government will offer him every incentive, but requisitioning of wheat from the men who produce it is not in our minds."

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From The Commercial Appeal, April 24 -

MISSOURI COTTON PRODUCERS MAKE UP FOR LOSSES-The cotton producers of Missouri plan to recoup their losses of last year, when early rains and floods cut their normal cotton acreage nearly in half and their cotton outturn more than half.

With that in mind, plantings for the 1946 season are much heavier than last year. In fact, one Missouri cotton grower is willing to bet that this season will see an all-time record acreage seeded.

Other sources report that there is a general tendency on the part of the growers to plant about 25 per cent over their last AAA allotment, which was 405,000 acres. This would indicate plantings of approximately 500,000 acres this year.

Reason for the great increase is said to lie in the belief that acreage controls may be imposed next year or the year after. Missouri, it is said, has many farmers who intend to grow cotton mechanically as soon as machinery becomes available. The start already has been made in that direction. If the AAA uses a four-year average for determining future acreage, the season of 1945 would count heavily and provide a sharp decrease in the allotments for growers. To bring their average up, they are planting more and more cotton this year.

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BUSINESS AND THE OPA, Editorial-Business men as a rule are not in favor of any hasty, disorderly termination of price controls, though that impression may have been created by the compact, well-heeled and highly vocal National Association of Manufacturers. The N.A.M. proposes doing away with the Office of Price Administration at the earliest date legally possible. All the reputable polls of public sentiment have proved that the association is clear out of line with the great majority of the people. A report just issued by the research committee of the Committee for Economic Development shows that a large segment of business also disagrees sharply with the N.A.M.

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From The Times-Picayune, April 24 -

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RED HILL LAND IMPROVES CATTLE (AP) -State College, Miss.-Red hill land in Mississippi may be called "poor" but it can produce \$38.77 worth of beef per acre, Mississippi State college contends.

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